END QUARTER-DAY ANXIETY.

Why tolerate the worries, inconveniences and restrictions of a tenant, when the "City Life" simple system of easy instalment payments enables you to enjoy the rights and privileges of ownership?

Full particulars free from D.E.U.B.

CITY LIFE Assurance Co., Ltd.

(D. Bailey, F.S.S., Gen. Man.)

6 PAUL ST., FINSBURY, E.C.2

AN INVITATION TO OUR READERS. See Page 16.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 725. SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

MORRIS'S HAVANA 'BLEND' Cigarettes

Have the sweet nuttiness and fine flavour of a good Havana Cigar.

20 for 1/- of all Tobacconists.

B. Morris & Sons, Ltd., London, E.

Resting, but Watchful

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

MASSAGE HOUSES UNMASKED

By Appointment to H.M. The King.

BECAUSE

NESTLÉ'S MILK

The Richest in Cream

—for which you pay—contains

Much Less Water

—which costs nothing—than inferior brands, they can be sold for less money, but

NESTLÉ'S MILK

is the BEST—Therefore the CHEAPEST.

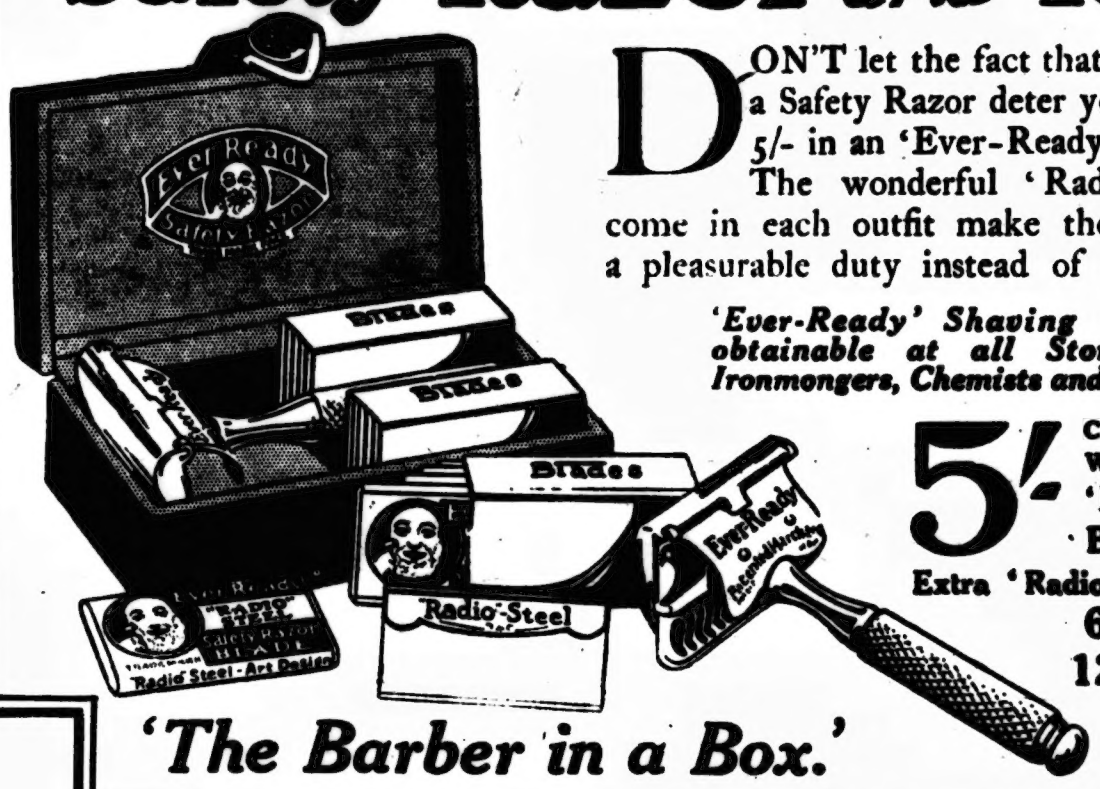
Cash Price 1/4½ Per Tin.

FROM 21st APRIL

Resolutely Refuse Anything Else

NESTLÉ'S 6-8, EASTCHEAP, E.C.3.

'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor and 'Radio' Blades



DON'T let the fact that you already have a Safety Razor deter you from investing 5/- in an 'Ever-Ready' Shaving Outfit. The wonderful 'Radio' Blades that come in each outfit make the morning shave a pleasurable duty instead of an irksome task.

'Ever-Ready' Shaving Outfits are obtainable at all Stores, Cutlers, Ironmongers, Chemists and Hairdressers.

5/- COMPLETE WITH SIX 'RADIO' BLADES

Extra 'Radio' Blades
6 for 2/-
12 for 4/-

TRADE MARK FACE.

We are manufacturers of the famous
'EVER-READY' Shaving Brushes.
All bristles gripped in hard rubber.

'The Barber in a Box.'

'EVER-READY' SAFETY RAZOR CO. LTD.,
130, Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

SAMPLE BOOT OFFER.

BOOTS, like all other artic'es, can be produced at almost any price—so much depends upon the quality of material and workmanship: but when Barratt's (a firm with a reputation to uphold) offer sample pairs of full Chrome Box Calf Boots, made on the hand-sewn principle, at 30/- a pair, post paid, that offer is worth thinking about.

HOW IT IS DONE.

Large purchases of leather, mass production, direct from factory to wearer—that's the secret. Why should you pay the middleman's profit, when you can get such quality boots at first cost?

We would rather talk quality than price because no other firm makes better boots than Barratt's, but we cannot help talking price because no other firm charges so little for such high-grade footwear.

Send for a sample pair to-day, and if you think they are not worth 50 per cent. more than you have paid for them, return them to us, when your money will be refunded in full without any quibbling whatever.

DESCRIPTION: Prime Box Calf, very pliable; tough medium-weight soles; comfortable shape; welted (hand-sewn) principle, ensuring flexibility and inside smoothness: solidly built and very comfortable. Suitable for town or light country wear. Every pair guaranteed.

Style 3097.
PRICE
30/- POST FREE

SIZES: 5, 5½, 6, 6½, 7, 7½, 8, 8½, 9, 9½, 10, 10½, 11, 11½, 12. If size not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot, and we will supply a perfect fit. *All post orders must be sent direct to our works at Northampton.*

W. BARRATT & Co., Ltd.
(Dept. J),
"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

LONDON DEPOTS:
36, OXFORD STREET, W.
21 & 22, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.
57, FENCHURCH ST., E.C.
106, STRAND, W.C.
285, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
13, TOTTENHAM Ct. Rd., W.

Send 3d. postage for large Illustrated Art Catalogue of "Footshapes" for the family.

1870
PROGRESS
Founded in 1870 the Rudge-Whitworth Company holds to-day the leading place amongst British Cycle Makers.
50 YEARS
Illustrated Art Catalogue and "Book of the Bicycle" post free from
Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd.
(Dept. 379), COVENTRY
London Depot:
230 Tottenham Court Road
(Oxford Street end),
W.1
By Appointment Cycle Makers to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales
Rudge-Whitworth
Britain's Best Bicycle
1920

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 725. **Week ending Saturday, April 24th, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Doctor "Mac."

There is no more popular man in the House of Commons than Dr. Macnamara, and we predict a big success for him in his new office.

Women Masons?

Now that we are to have complete equality of the sexes, why should not women be initiated into the ancient craft of Freemasonry?

A Neat Epigram.

We noticed this phrase the other day in a letter from one of our readers: "The House of Commons is a place where laws are made and citizens dismayed." Not bad, is it?

Passport Piffle.

Isn't it about time the Foreign Office simplified the procedure for the issue of passports to British subjects visiting France and Belgium? Complaints reach us every day.

An Inconsistent "G.G."

Thus "A.G.G." in last Saturday's *Daily News*—the Nonconformist paper which, when it amalgamated with the *Morning Leader*, advertised that "the best of both" was being retained, and then introduced the racing news and tips of the *Leader*:—"The streets of London are periodically insulted by the poisonous placards of a notorious gutter journal directed to evoking ill-feeling against America." So far—so bad!

The "G.G." Breaks Down.

And now listen to this from the same article: "The spirit which dictates these outrages *is much more widespread than we should like to admit* . . . the mass mind of America is a compound of all the nations of the earth, and has no more interest in this country than in any other country." "A.G.G." should employ a sub-editor to keep him straight.

The Prince's Tour.

We wonder whether our readers fully realise the enormous good which the Empire Tour of the Prince of Wales is doing. The Prince is abundantly endowed with that mystic magnetism which is so essential in one destined to personify the institution of Constitutional and Democratic Monarchy.

Stockport.

Apropos of this election, surely nothing more comical was ever written than the congratulations of Mr. Bonar Law and the Lord Chancellor to the successful Candidates on their demonstration of unity for the Coalition cause—the fact being that it became necessary to jockey poor Mr. Wardle out of his seat in order to prevent the Government champions tearing each other to pieces!

British Juries.

One of our readers tells us that, at a recent inquest in the East End of London, out of seven jurors five were foreigners. We must take steps to have the attention of Coroners called to the Jury Clause which we succeeded in drafting on to the Aliens Act.

Serbia—

One of the leading authorities upon Balkan matters—as to which we are addressing a question to the Government—says, "I shall not be surprised if people generally are soon repeating your historic poster" Let us see—what *was* it we said?

And Montenegro.

By the way, what is the mystery behind the withholding by the Foreign Office of the Report of Count de Salis, the British Envoy recently sent to investigate the position between Serbia and Montenegro? Is it the fact that on arrival at Belgrade he was thrown into prison, and that for some time his life was in danger?

A Parson's Tribute.

Thus the Rev. B. G. Bourchier, Vicar of Hampstead Garden Suburb: "Horatio Bottomley is a power—a man whose writings, week by week, did more than anything else I know of to hearten the nation during the dark days of the War." Many thanks.

Labour and "Drink."

To set at rest any doubt upon the subject, we quote Mr. Arthur Henderson's address to the Widnes electors in August of last year: "The Labour Party's Temperance policy contemplates giving localities the power to prohibit the sale of alcoholic drink in their boundaries." Electors who vote for Labour candidates therefore know what to expect.

Just So.

These professional politicians do give themselves away at times. Wishing Mr. Runciman success in his election, Earl Grey says:—"Without independent criticism in Parliament a Government is bound to deteriorate—this is our present danger, and it is real and serious." That is what we are always saying.

Not Always.

Thus the *Alfreton and Belper Journal*, apropos of certain criticisms of ourselves by the *New Commonwealth* (you observe what free advertisements *we* give our contemporaries!): "There still remains the fact that Mr. Bottomley is the idol of the British working man, and can it not be safely put down to the fact that he always hits from the shoulder?"—with an occasional undercut to "the point," we hope.

King Gustav.

We entirely dissociate ourselves from the ungenerous attacks which have been made by certain sections of the Press upon the King of Sweden. His position during the war was one of great difficulty and delicacy, but we have good reason to believe that he never faltered in his duty towards this country.

The Dyke.

We are glad to see this famous beauty spot of Sussex being actively revived, with its fully licensed hotel situated in grounds of 1,000 acres, 700 feet above sea-level, and commanding a view into seven counties and the Isle of Wight. How happy dear old Gipsy Lee would have been had she lived!

An Accommodating Conscience.

Thus Mr. Hj. Reitz, the National Party candidate for Pretoria Central: "Such oaths as I may be compelled to take I shall abide by, with the exception that I shall continue to do whatever is legal and constitutional to sever this country (South Africa) from allegiance to the King." Our Boer friend had better read the oath.

Colliery Ambulances.

Surely every colliery should be compelled by law to be provided with either a horse—or motor—ambulance for the removal to the nearest hospital or infirmary of employees meeting with accidents. We heard of one case recently in which a man was kept five hours before reaching an infirmary eight miles from the pit, and who consequently bled to death. We must press the Home Secretary on the subject.

Another Armistice Blunder.

Just as the war would have been all cleaned up by now had our troops been permitted to go to Berlin in November, 1918, so, we are assured by a well-known officer who served with the North Russia Expeditionary Force, might the Bolshies have been effectively routed. "They would have been crushed the world over had we got to Moscow; most of our men were willing to stay—the Sappers were, at any rate." Oh, those politicians!

Our Reward.

We acknowledge with gratitude and pride the following splendid tribute of our distinguished contemporary *Land and Water*, to the bit we did in the war: "For many years valuable spade work has been done by Mr. Horatio Bottomley, whose journalistic and forensic talents, no less than his patriotic activities—both the reflection of a truly British heart—are one of the great memories of the Great War." Let us leave it at that.

Agricultural.

A discharged officer of Lt.-Colonel's rank was recently in search of a job. The best the Board of Agriculture *plus* Bury St. Edmund's Agricultural Committee could do for him was an offer of six weeks' training to enable him to know a hoe from a hayfork, and then work for the rest of his existence as a labourer on the land!

Dividends or Wages?

At the last shareholders' meeting of the Temperance Billiard Halls, Ltd., of Manchester, a 13 per cent. dividend was declared and a goodly sum reserved for development. We would suggest that the wages of the employees should be the first thing to be developed. Managers get from 57s. 6d. to 65s. a week; women assistants from 27s. 6d. to 32s. 6d., while charwomen receive a paltry sum.

Fish Profiteering.

It is apparently nobody's business to put a stop to the scandalous profiteering in fish. Though there is frequently a glut at the ports, buyers will take only small quantities, so that retailers may obtain as near as possible the Controlled prices. Cod purchased at Fleetwood Auction Market the other day at less than 1½d. per lb. was sold inland at the rate of 1s. 2d. and 1s. 4d. a pound. The fish left on the market is disposed of for manure. What a "Control" we have, to be sure!

Hint for Budget.

"An English Sailor" points out that the British mercantile marine is run by a large percentage of foreigners, who pay neither insurance nor income-tax. Whenever an alien serves in a U.S. vessel, he has to pay a 6 per cent. foreign seamen's tax and an additional income tax. "For years Unk Sam has made a pile out of British ships in this way, and John Bull has complacently watched him do it without growing any wiser." Is the Chancellor of the Exchequer inclined to see about it?

Canteen Girls.

Canteen girls at Tournay Barracks, North Camp, Aldershot, have a hard time of it. They work from 7 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., with two hours off duty, if lucky. They have, too, half-a-day's leave a week—also if lucky. "Inspectors and manageress," affirms our deponent, "run round us all day, and burglars and beetles all night, so that we never get a full night's rest. We can claim one Sunday off in six weeks, but if we stay in camp we are expected to work. We are now told we shall have to give up our half-days during the summer." The Canteen girls ought to be more considerately and reasonably treated than this.

Empty Houses in Anerley.

The Anerley Council will probably be too late for their own funeral. Away back in September, 1919, they were offered two empty houses, containing 20 rooms—sufficient accommodation for six small families. No attempt having been made to secure them up to 30th November, they were sold on that date through the medium of an advertisement. Early in December, however, the owner received notice from the Council that they would be compulsorily purchased by them. But up to the 5th of this month no step has been taken to complete the transaction. Thus, notwithstanding the scandalous house shortage, these two "desirable residences" have stood empty since September last! . . .

Butter.

Holland, France, Belgium, Denmark, New Zealand and the Argentine want to send butter here, but the trade is not allowed to deal in it. Meanwhile, the public are paying through the nose for the stuff purchased by the Government. Now that Mr. McCurdy has got over his re-election, perhaps he will be able to find time to look after this essential necessity of the people.

Awa' at Wei-Hai-Wei.

An advertisement in the newspapers, issued by the Crown Agents for the Colonies at Milbank, S.W., offers a salary of £200, "rising to £230 by annual increments of £15, and a war bonus of 15 per cent." for a Sanitary Inspector required by the Government of Wei-Hai-Wei. The contemplation of this stupendous emolument rouses an Aberdeen man to scathing scorn. Anyone who applies for this job, he says, should be given a free passage to the asylum, not to China.

Frozen Out.

Many employers when advertising for female labour intimate that no ex-Waac or ex-Wraf need apply. This is unfair and ungrateful. The Waacs and Wrafs did essential and arduous war-work. It is a great shame to single them out for special exclusion where women are called for in industrial enterprises. Other things being equal, we should say they have first claim to consideration in such cases—just as, when vacancies occur for men, we hold that, other things being equal, preference should go to ex-soldiers.

Dear Water.

What one of our readers thinks is "a lot too mean for a big city like Birmingham" is the fact that the local Stipendiary has fined Clara Smith, who dwells where her caravan is resting, 20s. or 11 days in gaol for "drawing water into a bucket from a tap on some property in course of erection." Clearly the woman can't go on paying this price for water. As water she must have, it is hereby suggested that she should return to the Stipendiary and seek his advice as how she can properly lay herself on to the main.

Police for Punters.

Street-betting is of course illegal. Apart from that fact, a bet made in the street is neither worse nor better than a bet made anywhere else. While a police raid on "bookies" and punters was in progress in Fulham the other day, burglars were doing a £10,000 stunt in Sloane Square. In Fulham itself it is unsafe for decent women to go about alone after dark in some streets on account of vile pests; the police, however, never think of disguising themselves in order to haul these beasts to the seat of judgment.

Sir Ian as Hun Advocate.

General Sir Ian Hamilton has pretty seriously damaged his reputation among the "Diggers" by his ill-advised championship of the notorious General Liman Von Sanders. Anzacs remember, if Sir Ian forgets, that under Von Sanders' command the Turks fired on the white flag and the Red Cross, and shelled our wounded and those who were rescuing survivors from the *Triumph*. In Egypt, too, the Hun General stirred up strife, while on the Western front he was responsible for not a little of the "frightfulness." Is it surprising that Hindenburg says our leaders lack imagination? They haven't even memories!

An Example from Ceylon.

They do some things better in the Overseas Dominions. One of them is their treatment of the human brute. In a recent case at Colombo a vernacular schoolmaster, convicted of beating a boy and burning him on the palms and mouth with charcoal, was awarded two years' vigorous imprisonment and 15 strokes. We hope some of the Great Unpaid will take the hint.

Houses as Bait.

One of the most ingenious ways of exploiting the house shortage to personal advantage has been discovered by a Peer of the Realm, Lord Glasgow. He advertises for a forester, married preferred, for the magnificent reward of 30s. a week, with house, coals and milk, "security of tenure assured." The idea is apparently that applicants will not worry about the by no means handsome salary if they can get a roof over their heads. Rather keen!

Precept and Practice.

Some of the Trade Unions, while they are out for big increases of wages for their members, are paying their own clerks less than scavengers receive. Generally it is £3 5s. or £3 10s. per week, but in one or two rare cases, such as the National Union of Clerks itself and the United Vehicle Workers, the lordly sum of £3 15s. This to adult workers with families! Yet the official organ of the United Vehicle Workers is beating the big drum for £6 9s. 8d. "subsistence level."

Eleven.

Of eleven children born of Mrs. Annie Bennett, of Springbourne, Bournemouth, all in different years, three of them, two daughters and one son, celebrate the same birthday. Two other children, one daughter and one son, celebrate the same birthday also. A daughter was born on her father's birthday. "My husband," Mrs. Bennett tells us, "died in January, 1917. He was a farm labourer. I brought up my family on 10s. a week." That was before there was a war on. Now miracles do not happen.

Work and Wages.

Referring to our recent "Candid" to Miss Weston, the Folkestone Councillor, the Council have again considered the question whether or not to raise the wages of one Bowles, a public bath attendant, and have declined to do so. As our readers well know, we have no love for Conchies, but we must be just even to them. It appears this man did go to France in khaki as an engine-driver, and on his return he was taken into the Council's service at the baths at a wage of 30s. a week. Now that the Council employ him, they are under moral obligation to give him a wage by which he can decently live.

A Dickensonian Satire.

We have received the following clever letter, which will be read with interest by all Dickens students:—

> Sir,—My friend Mrs. Pardiggle who, as you are aware, is still collecting for the "Society for the Propagation of the Jews," informs me that her colleague Lord Paramour is official head of the "Fight the Famine Council." Being, by reason of the rise in income tax, unable to subscribe my mite, I have arranged that my dear daughter Caddie (who has just lost her little one) shall bare her own fair bosom in the new cause, and supply nourishment to any such two dear little Prussian infants as the Council may recommend.—Yours to command. M. Jellaby. Hon. Secretary, S.P.J.

Local Limerick.

(*Ormskirk Guardians have passed a resolution permitting workhouse inmates to play cards.*)

There once was a pauper named Smuts,
Whose troubles were merely tut-tuts:
When with friends in the wards
He'd no money for cards,
He would play like a hero for nuts.

Education and Dishonesty.

Five years ago the Leeds Education Committee commandeered the Brudenell Road Schools, forcing the scholars to receive half-time Education only at another school. But the Education Committee still takes the educational rate and the full grant from the Government. As the Committee proceeds against parents who fail to send their children to school, why not proceed against the Committee for failing to provide proper educational facilities thus obtaining money by false pretences?

Lincoln's Memorial.

The City of Lincoln proposes to spend £20,000 on a War Memorial, to take the shape of a stone monument. There are to be tablets at its base, symbolical of war winners, but there is much indignation because the design quite ignores the sailor, the airman, and the tanks—Lincoln's pride. It is not long since we referred to the fact that the city does not contain one public bath, and local feeling urges that a more fitting war memorial would be the erection of such an establishment.

Shame!

We wonder how long it will take the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to realise that a large number of the superannuated clergy have the wolf at the door. These retired clerics have had no war bonus, and all or most of them have to live on the Commissioners' grant of £75 per annum and £50 a year from other sources. It is no use the Commissioners pretending they are hard up. Their Christian duty and obligation is to bring up the annual grant to an amount which will enable these men to support life with decency.

A Costly Episode.

In an evil moment, as it was to prove, John Kerrigan, licensee of the White Horse Inn, Hurstpierpoint, said to a groom who was stopping at the place, "Would you like a glass of ale and a biscuit?" It was, of course, in no sense a business transaction, the invitation being intended in pure friendliness; but it was during prohibited hours, and at the Haywards Heath Petty Sessions the unfortunate landlord has been ordered to pay £10 10s., the cost of a prosecution undertaken by the local police. In omitting to fine the defendant the Magistrates showed some sense of the unfairness of the proceedings. But it was a costly escape.

The Chance of a Lifetime.

A lady, signing herself "B. Radclyffe," has been advertising in a West of England newspaper for a chauffeur and gardener. In a letter to a likely applicant the good soul more particularly states her requirements. "I want a willing man," she writes, "ready to do all kinds of odd jobs, such as cleaning knives, boots, coal or pumping." The grammar may be faulty, but there is no mistaking the lady's intention of getting her full money's worth and a trifle over. And listen to this: "My wages are 35s. a week and you can get yourself good board and lodging for 25s." Add to this the society of a sweet and generous lady, and what more could the heart of man desire?

"Coals to Newcastle."

At a Lancaster reading room was recently held the customary auction sale of papers, periodicals, etc. The auctioneer, a clergyman, was astonished to find there was no bid offered for JOHN BULL. Expressing his surprise, he was quickly enlightened as to the reason by a loud and unanimous cry of "We all buy it weekly!" And very good judges, too.

Callous Cemetery Company.

Acting on the information contained in a notice which hangs on the gates of the Abney Park Cemetery, a man went there with his children on Easter Monday to visit the grave of the mother. But access to the poor woman's place of rest was denied him, as he, with well over a hundred others from far and near, bearing wreaths and flowers, found the gates locked. Are the Cemetery Company so busy spending big dividends that their hearts have petrified?

Where Charity Begins—and Ends.

The Treasurer of the Foundling Hospital says, in effect, that unless the public comes down handsomely, they must reduce the number of children cared for, sell some of their treasures, or move to the country. We don't suppose the kiddies get much joy out of the treasures, but if the governors would sooner curtail their benefaction than lose some of their treasures we suggest they give the kiddies the purer country air. They *would* relish that.

Justice's Injustice.

The other day, at Edinburgh, Judge Watson gave a lamentable display of ignorance. In fining a homeless middle-aged man for sleeping out, he told him there was plenty of work to be found, and advised him to go to Gorgie, where a few new houses are being built. But, along with about 150 ex-Service men, he had already been there. Nothing doing—too many men already. There are 5,000 ex-sailors and soldiers in Edinburgh unemployed, and no wonder they think the Judge's statement a reflection on them.

Bumble on Trial.

Charges of ill-treatment of a weak-minded inmate of the Bishop's Stortford Workhouse are to be the subject of a Report by Mr. C. S. Roundell, a Ministry of Health Inspector, who lately conducted an Inquiry into the whole of the circumstances. Until the publication of the Inspector's findings it would be improper to comment upon the evidence, which was of an unusual nature; but at a later stage it may be our duty to give the fullest publicity to facts which have already aroused strong feeling in the locality. The public will have no mercy on officials found guilty of maltreating the defenceless poor.

Hunting the Flat.

"I am in great need of apartments and should be very grateful if you would give me a chance with the accommodation you have at your disposal," wrote the wife of an ex-soldier to an advertiser. The reply to this polite request was a staggerer. It was scribbled on the back of the letter itself, which was returned: "151, Denmark Hill, S.E. Opposite Ruskin Park. *Re* 2 unf. rooms. Polished floors. Gas fittings. Cornice poles and blinds. Use bath, kitchen, scullery, and garden. Rent £2 per week, incl. gas. No children." The impudence of asking £2 a week for accommodation of this kind in Denmark Hill glaringly illustrates the shamelessness of the profiteering in unfurnished rooms which is going on in London to-day.

Where Can They Go?

Is it true that a number of shop keepers in Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C., are being turned out-of-doors to pave the way for big theatrical developments? As to whether more entertainment houses are needed in this part of London opinions may differ, but there will be general agreement that speculative ventures entailing crushing hardship upon honest tradesmen should be held over till more settled times.

"Picture Theatre Prussians."

So our contemporary, *Pictures*, terms some cinema attendants whose rudeness towards and bullying of the public had already formed the subject of complaint to us. We wonder how halls in which such misbehaviour on the part of paid servants is tolerated can manage to keep running at all—for comfort is surely one of the first essentials of an evening's entertainment.

Skinny.

Mr. J. Price, 53, Canning Road, Highbury, N., widely advertises for moleskins. In a Worcester paper he says: "I offer you and actually pay 2s. 3d. per moleskin." Well, a certain Worcester man tells us that he "sent six up as a test, and got 4s. 6d. back." He therefore demanded the return of the skins, and some were certainly returned to him. They were not his own, however, "but a poor lot." It is obviously up to Mr. Price to explain.

Tangle or Wangle?

When a tenant went to take over the telephone that he found installed in his new house, the G.P.O. ordered him to pay £5 5s. for rental and £4 10s. surcharge for installation. But as the old tenant had paid rental up to the end of April, as well as the full amount for installation, the newcomer refused—and lost his telephone. We shall have to question the P.M.G. in the House to find out whether this is a terrible tangle or a wily wangle.

Only Good Enough to Fight!

Three selected candidates came before the Falmouth Board of Guardians for the post of Superintendent Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths. The successful one was the Clerk to the Board, who had acted as Deputy Registrar for several years, and was exempted from military service. He is a solicitor with a large practice, and holder of one or two other offices. The other two were ex-Service men, possessed of long experience in accounting. We commend the opinion expressed by Mr. Spargo, one of the Guardians, that he didn't believe in dual positions, there being more than enough men on the Labour Exchange. But ex-Service men seem to be considered only good enough to fight for their country.

Robbing the Blind.

There is an agreement between the Boards of Guardians whereby recipients of poor-law relief who live in a parish other than that to which they are chargeable get their grants through their place of residence, all expenses being borne by the chargeable authority. The St. Pancras Board set the whole country an excellent example by increasing the allowance to an old blind-and-deaf woman from 7s. 6d. to £1, but the Kensington Guardians—within whose district she is—say that they can pay only the same paltry amount they pay for themselves. And so the poor afflicted creature is robbed of her right and forced to "live" (save the word) on 7s. 6d. a week, simply because the Kensington Guardians are too mean and inhuman to pay their own poor any more. Have the West End Bumbles any defence?

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To His Majesty the King of Sweden.

Sir,—It was a gracious thought on your part to travel to Paris *via* London—where we were all glad to see you. Despite certain unkind things which have been said—especially during the war—I know that you never departed from an attitude of strict neutrality, and that you have nothing but the friendliest feelings towards my country. Your visit—brief and informal as it was—will have done good. "Here's a health unto your Majesty!" John Bull.

To A. Hopkinson, Esq., M.P.

My Dear Hopkinson,—What a nasty temper you have! And what an unpleasant personality! I don't like you at all; you are one of the most undelectable men in the House. I know you have a fine war record—and all honour to you for it. But why always be so disagreeable? Why, for instance, during the debate on the Army Annual Bill, scoff and sneer at this journal, which you should know is loved of the soldier—expressing your belief that "not more than one or two Hon. Members ever read it"! Do try and be a bit more matey. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. T. J. Macnamara, M.P., Minister of Labour.

My Dear "Mac,"—Because I love you rather more than I love the Coalition in which you have been rewarded with a well-deserved job as Minister of Labour, I hereby request you to shake. If you have an enemy in the House of Commons I haven't noticed him about, and your bright and breezy personality shines in friendships' innumerable. Between you and me and Downing Street, I think it was you, and not the Coalition as a going concern, who won the war in Camberwell. We should all have been sorry to see you out; we are all glad to see you in. At the Ministry of Labour you will be It. John Bull.

To Councillor W. Redshaw, Wharfedale.

Sir,—When the workmen employed by your Council recently applied for an advance of 10s. on their salary of 50s. a week (real value about £1) you distinguished yourself by remarking that "men doing that kind of work were not worth the money they were receiving," that "they had been fed with a silver spoon and would come again in a month and ask for more"—and a great deal of other nonsense to the same effect. I take you to be one of those employers who fear their labourers becoming road-menders because they cannot live on their wages, and I sincerely hope the 5s. increase granted by the Council will show this apprehension to be well grounded. John Bull.

To Mrs. Florence English, Canning Town, E.

Dear Mrs. English,—Charged with bigamy, you told the Recorder at the Old Bailey that the days since your unlawful marriage had been the happiest of your life. Nearly twenty years ago your first husband was removed to an asylum for the insane, where he still remains—there being no hope of his recovery. In these circumstances, you committed what the law calls "bigamy"—that is to say, you went through the form of marriage with a man whom in your misfortune you had learned to love and honour. Happily, your "crime" was brought to the notice of a Judge who, taking the wise and merciful view, sentenced you to one day's imprisonment, tantamount to immediate release. It is to the lasting discredit of the House of Commons that it has refused to sanction an amendment of the Divorce Laws which would remove such conduct as yours from the category of crime. John Bull.

To Mr. C. G. Stephens, Hairdresser, Bristol.

Sir,—I am told that, having made up your mind to shoot the Niagara Falls in a barrel, you are starting for Quebec in a few weeks' time—so here's to wish you luck and a fine day for the experiment. Should you find a premature grave, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you asked for it; while, if fortune should favour you, you will no doubt be acclaimed a hero, and I shall personally recommend you for the O.B.E. Before starting, you should insure your life and say good-bye to the canary. With all my heart I wish you a pleasant journey. John Bull.

To Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy, M.P.

Dear Kenworthy,—You are "anti" most things, and it is therefore not surprising that you should object to the proposed Imperial War Museum as calculated "to perpetuate the war spirit"; but I do not agree with you one little bit. Indeed, I regard the "Forget the War" policy as an extremely dangerous one, and I can see nothing but good in an exhibition reminding us alike of the valour of our heroes and the infamy of a brutal foe. Absent-mindedness on these great matters may spell unthinkable disaster. However, I am glad to see that you voted in favour of granting the right of appeal to the soldier sentenced to death. John Bull.

To Mr. Frank Padfield, Wembley Farm, Wembley.

Dear Sir,—You have had a six-guinea lesson in milking from the Wealdstone Magistrates. If you take my advice, you will profit by it as much in your own interest as in that of your customers. I understand you have been forty years in occupation at the farm, and that frequent reports during that period, have shown your milk supply to be of invariably high quality. So far so good. But you really ought to know that when you milk cows you should wash and dress for the part—not milk with filthy hands while "wearing a very old and dirty smock," as the Medical Officer of Health caught you doing. At best, milk as we get it is generally a lot dirtier and germ-laden than it should be; we can't have it produced more dirtily through deliberate neglect of cleanly practices and habits. Soap and clothes are dear, I know; on the other hand, milk profits are magnificent, so you must try to afford the sanitary essentials of your business unless you want to be badly downed again. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Sir Eric Geddes, Minister of Transport.

Your Eminence,—I am really glad to hear you are not aware of something. You are not aware, it appears from your answer to Sir Richard Cooper, under what powers the District Railway Company "charge 1s. 2d. for a small portable typewriter carried by a passenger whose fare might be only a penny." To be candid, I am not aware either; but I do think the charge a d——well, if I said what I thought about it I should use language appropriate to the occasion. As it is, I note with pleasure that even if the charge is legal you do not regard it as just or expedient, and that you propose to deal with the District Railway Company in that spirit. People who use the railways have enough impositions and annoyances without the District Company adding audacious plundering of this sort to the list. In the name of many poor typists, I am glad to be able to thank you for the promise of your good offices in directing its abolition. John Bull.

To "X 92," "Echo" Office, Cardiff.

Benefactor,—But for the fact that your identity is cloaked by the mysterious symbol above, under which you advertise for a furnished house, I would seek you out, and wring your hand. You are the only man in England who has got a laugh out of the house shortage, and by stipulating for "garden, lavatory, six bedrooms and three other rooms" for the sum of seven shillings a week, you have increased the gaiety of a homeless nation. May you find a kindred spirit to supply your needs—if only for the fun of the thing! However, I am not very hopeful. John Bull.

To Baillie Gibb, Musselburgh.

Dear Fanatic,—Take my tip and retire. From the Magisterial Bench, I mean, of course. All Musselburgh is raving about you; the Town Council have publicly criticised you; the local Press have pilloried you. Your only supporters are other temperance fanatics and the man who, charged with a horribly indecent offence to a young girl, you let off with a fine of £3. I don't envy you your defenders. And now you boast that you will willingly go into the witness-box on behalf of the rotten cad you so lightly sentenced. But when you do, please don't do your damnedest to get him to blame it on to "the drink." I am disgusted with you—and again I say, take my tip and retire. John Bull.

To Mrs. Alma White, American Evangelist, Central Hall, Westminster.

Dear Evangelist,—You seem to be a sort of first cousin to "Pussyfoot," bent on weaning the British people from their wicked ways and making them fit for high-souled Yankees to live with. Principally, I see, it is the women's dresses that excite your wrath—your idea being that if a girl's costume is a trifle short in the skirt, or a bit too low in the bodice, it is bound to excite the ordinary male person to excesses of crime and passion. It is a curious thing that this sort of suggestion invariably forms part of the stock-in-trade of the American evangelist, and I can only conclude that the evils hinted at must be excessively common in the Republic of the great and free. But you must remember that ours is a far healthier climate. John Bull.

To Mr. W. H. Brown, Government Meat Buyer, Tibshelf, Derbyshire.

Dear Sir,—You knew your obligations of law and honour and public example under the terms of your appointment; yet you have been convicted by the Alfreton Magistrates of offences which would be deplorable in any ordinary butcher, but are most improper in you. "Brown was charged with selling the beasts and sheep" which were the subject of a charge against the Tibshelf Co-operative Society, "without their having been graded and sold through a market; slaughtering a beast contrary to regulations (two offences); and with failing to keep accurate records." Though you were a Government officer, sir, you went out of your way to give the Co-operative Society a greater allocation of meat than that to which they were entitled—of course, to the detriment of other meat traders—and I have no doubt that you did not do it for philanthropy. The fines were paltry enough I admit: "£2 in each case—making, with the costs, a total of £11 18s. 6d.," and a total of £12 1s. for the Society. A smaller man and a less wealthy concern might have been more severely punished, as is commonly the case. However that may be, it would be an affront to the fair traders of the district, and an outrage on public policy to employ you further in Government service. John Bull.

THE MILLENNIUM FOR SIXPENCE.

MYSTERIOUS COUPONS AND DOUBTFUL BENEFITS.

One W. B. Anstis—an illiterate individual—is the Secretary of a body rejoicing in the high-sounding title of "The Five Days' Labour a Week League," with an address at 6, Oswald Street, Glasgow. The so-called League's nominal object is to agitate for a reduced working week, in order to prevent unemployment; but, from correspondence before us, it seems more concerned to gather in cash by means of sixpenny coupons. Inducements are offered to agents to sell books of these tickets and to secure subscribers, but the benefits are illusory—save to the "League"—and there is no record either of the names of its Committee, if any, or its Treasurer. Apparently Anstis is the sole proprietor of this precious organisation, and does not think it necessary to publish a balance-sheet. Nor does the League seem to be registered under the Business Names Act. Its methods are highly suspicious, and until they are officially investigated we strongly advise that no notice be taken of its invitation or that of any other body promising a ready-made Millennium for sixpence.

STUDIED INSULT.

SACRILEGIOUS THEFT AND ITS INVESTIGATION.

The elders of the East U.F. Church at Galashiels have put their foot into it with a vengeance in their bungling, over-zealous attempt to detect the culprit who has been making a practice of pilfering the collection plate. First of all they started talking, and the outcome of that was that two members of the Church had to publish their "regret that wrong has been done by rumour, having associated Miss Cartwright's name with the thefts without direct evidence." So much for that, but the blame can't be shifted on to the long-suffering shoulders of Rumour for the other incident in the affair. A trap, in which a marked £1 note, a policeman and a peep-hole figured, was arranged on a Sunday morning, but it missed fire; the bait was taken, but the culprit went undetected. What must these hot-headed elders do but hustle half-a-dozen young men, all long-standing members of the congregation, into a room to be searched—and the officer of the law watched it done! All that the searchers got was disappointment. But what about the six young men who were thus outrageously insulted and subjected to an indignity for which—particularly as the law abetted it—they should have more than the apology in dubious terms that was offered to Miss Cartwright?

A CUNNING CATFORD CARD.

ARTFUL ANGLING WITH AN ADVERTISEMENT.

> PARTNER with £75 WANTED to manage small factory; used to woodwork preferred. Excellent opportunity.—Write Box——.

This innocent-looking advertisement conceals a sly scheme. Anyone replying to it receives a communication from H. A. Lewis, 62, Rushey Green, Catford, enclosing a "prospectus" having no relation whatever either to a "small factory" or to woodwork, but inviting participation in a betting system which, in the words of its "inventor," is "as unique as it is startling" and "as true as it is marvellous." We are not concerned with the precious "system"—which, we might say in passing, appears to be utterly worthless. Our purpose is to call attention to the barefaced use of a fraudulent advertisement by Lewis, to enable him to get into communication with persons with £75 at their disposal for investment, for the purpose of inducing them to hand their money to him without the slightest security. The method adopted to get in touch with small capitalists being dishonest, is *prima facie* proof that his "system" is of a similar character.

HURRY UP! FOR YOUR WHITSUN SUIT

BUY YOUR WHITSUN SUIT NOW, and get more out of it. What benefit is there to you in waiting until the season is half over? Be dressed in a new suit NOW, and it's ready for Whitsuntide. No doubt it has occurred to you it's about time you ordered that new Suit. A look at yourself in the mirror, or a glance at your suit, shows a new "rig-out" is required if you wish to avoid the half-shabby appearance of the procrastinating dresser. Don't run near the "suit-shabby" stage—and don't "do" yourself out of part of the season's wear. You might as well be measured and wear the suit at once. And, bear in mind, you can pick from a fuller selection of patterns than the man who comes later. When will you send that postcard for free patters?

Ask for No. 19 to expedite matters.

Our "Burlington" Suit is the style most fashionable, and is fashion's standard for a single-breasted suit. With patterns we supply self-measurement form, money-back guarantee, and book of styles showing all kinds of popular suits.

"BURLINGTON" SUIT

MADE TO MEASURE.

2-Button or 3-Button Style.

£4:8:0 CASH.

£5 10s. 0d. Easy Terms.

MONEY BACK IF YOU ARE NOT PERFECTLY SATISFIED.

BOOTS?

LET YOUR NEXT BE A PAIR FROM CATESBYS.

Catalogue FREE.

We are the Original Mail Order Tailors, and Guarantee you a perfect fit wherever you live.

CATESBYS Ltd. (Dept. 19), TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON, W.

SIR KREEMY KNUT'S ADVICE.

After a strenuous game there is no more delightful refreshment than SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE. It is the ideal open-air sweetmeat — refreshing, sustaining, and, most important of all, absolutely pure.

SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE

Sold loose by weight, or in 4-lb. decorated tins—also in ¼, ½, and 1-lb. tins, at all good Sweetshops.

See that the word "Super-Kreem" is printed on the paper in which Toffee is wrapped.

You should try SHARP'S ROYAL NOUGAT.

E. SHARP & SONS, LTD., MAIDSTONE.

OUR HUNT FOR CHAMPIONS.

BY A. G. ("SMILER") HALES.

Jim Slater and Pascha Jones met in the JOHN BULL contest for the Middleweight Championship of the Midlands in the Walsall Town Hall on the night of the fifteenth, before a crowded audience, containing many ladies. The whole contest was carried through in a manner which reflects greatest possible credit on Mr. Bob Parsons, the promoter. Slater, who is known all over the Black Country as JOHN BULL'S Boy, was many inches shorter than Jones, but his magnificent figure looked so enormously powerful that his taller rival seemed weedy in comparison. Jones was the favourite on account of his well-known science, and in the earlier stages looked every inch a winner. He has an enormous reach and a lightning left hand, which he drove into Slater's face with beautiful precision and power, sending him back like a shuttlecock and lifting him off his feet. But the punishment served only to rouse JOHN BULL'S Boy's fighting spirit, and at last he got inside Jones's long left hand and set to work on the tall man's body, sending in smashing blows on ribs and stomach with both hands. This caused Jones to make the mistake of trying to mix it with his opponent, who is a great two-handed fighter at close range. Coming out of one desperate and breathless rally, Slater whipped the right hand across Jones's chin and sent him reeling to the ropes, quickly following up his advantage and crashing in his blows above and below. Nothing but Jones's splendid cleverness with his head saved him. He stood up to it like a lion, and the roof rang to the plaudits of the crowd. A little later Jones went back to his long left-handed work, and again and again he sent Slater reeling. It looked as if the tide had turned against JOHN BULL'S Boy; but he is essentially a fighter. He kept after Jones until he wore him down with terrific rights on the side of the jaw and solid punches on the body. During the last five rounds, Jones took punishment enough to beat a dozen ordinary men, but the gallant fellow struggled on, hoping to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat, until Mr. Harry Cleveland, the Referee, stopped it. Both men received a tremendous ovation on leaving the ring. Jones, though beaten, will be heard of again; he has the makings of a great fighter. He was defeated by a lad who will go far when JOHN BULL has polished him up.

A MAGISTERIAL OUTRAGE.

INVALID EX-SOLDIER AND FAMILY TO BE EVICTED.

It is about time local Magistrates were stopped from playing the fool with the rights of tenants under the Rent Restriction Acts. At Banbury, the other day, a woman named Sturley applied for an Ejectment Order against Albert Mott, a discharged soldier—with four and a half years' Army service—totally disabled through tuberculosis. It was a case, if you like, of humanity against business. Too ill to conduct a hopeless search for other accommodation, Mott required the house for the shelter of a delicate wife and a family of four young children. Yet without a scruple the Bench would have turned this poor fellow into the street but for the timely discovery by the Chief Constable that the applicant had omitted to comply with the provisions of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act requiring notice to be given of her intention to convert a dwelling-house to commercial uses. However, that defect has apparently been remedied, and before many weeks are over this poor fellow, if he can muster strength enough to walk, will be bundled with his family into the street by order of the Banbury Magistrates. It is a pleasure to add that the threatened family are receiving every assistance from the Chief Constable of Banbury, Mr. W. Wilson. The town is fortunate in its "Chief."

LONDON'S MASSAGE HOUSES UNMASKED.

DANGER OF DEGENERATE VICE PRACTISED UNDER LICENCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

By Our Special Commissioner.

In our last issue Mr. Charles Palmer, M.P., dealt with the scandal of the immunity from police prosecution of a notorious woman keeping a notorious flat in Maddox Street. In this article our Special Commissioner gives the result of his experiences of some of the so-called Massage establishments in the West End.

If there is one Continental institution more than another at which generations of English people have been accustomed to raise their hands in pious indignation it is the legalised and Government-inspected "Maison." But I intend to show that houses of far blacker fame exist in the West End of London which also enjoy the protection of "the authorities." These places are more subtly dangerous because they instil and pander to degenerate tastes which are most perilous to the community. I refer, of course, to certain massage establishments.

Most of the houses are situated, roughly speaking, in a small area bounded on the north by Oxford Street, on the south by Piccadilly, on the east by Regent Street, and on the west by Bond Street. They are not difficult to find, although no uniformed commissionaire guards their portals, and the legends that proclaim them are far from obtrusive. "Electric Treatment," "Night Baths," "Radiant Heat Baths," "Special Massage," "Swedish Methods," and even "Treatment," simply, are the descriptions they display, on small neat brass plates or lettered in white on the window-panes. Some engage sandwichmen. Some even are in the telephone book. But their owners employ the uses of advertisement far less than in the old days when a so-called Bohemian weekly journal, since defunct, derived an enormous revenue from mysterious insertions of this type, which appeared by the dozen at the foot of each page.

More care had to be exercised since the time, a few years ago, when the massage scandal came to a head, and resulted in regulations under which every establishment was forced to be licensed by the London County Council and open for inspection by the authorities at any time. You can see these regulations, printed large and hung in a prominent place, in each of these infamous dens. It may appeal to the visitor's sense of humour to realise that on walls that are witness to the most disgusting and debasing orgies are displayed an official rigmarole containing a clause to the effect that no indecent or unseemly behaviour is on any account permitted, and another (and inevitable) one forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquors except in circumstances of medical necessity.

The fact is, the legal enactments have done nothing whatever to diminish the scandal. They have caused the owners of these establishments to walk a little more warily and to indulge in a certain amount of "camouflage." That is to say, occasionally, although not invariably, a new client is asked the name of the doctor, if any, who has sent him, and elaborate electrical chairs and other devices are prominently displayed. In one case I asked what the electrical apparatus, a most fearsome-looking affair, was for, and was told by the "nurse" that she hadn't the vaguest idea, and that as far as she knew no one on the premises knew how to use it. "It looks well when the Inspector comes round," she said. At another place I was told the purpose (other than the legitimate one of electrical massage) to which it was usually put. A description would be too disgusting.

At the head of the average massage shop is an elderly woman, alluded to by the nurses as either "the Matron," or "Madame," or "Mrs. ——." Whether she owns the place or has merely been put in charge of it by someone living at a safe distance, I cannot say. But she is a woman accustomed to take risks, since on each of my visits (and I have never visited the same place twice), I have been promptly asked what kind of nurse I preferred—short or tall, dark or fair, and so on. Such a question would, I imagine, be sufficient to choke off a *bona-fide* client. The next step is a long wait in a comfortable sitting-room. Nurse Maud or Nurse Jane or Nurse Peggy then appears, smirking, and conducts the "patient" to a room containing an electric bath. He is stripped and is covered up in the bath. to sweat harmlessly for twenty minutes or so. Meanwhile an ordinary hot-water bath is prepared. The nurse tends her "patient," dries him, and then conducts him to a couch, where the massage proper or rather, improper, commences. The patient is left to the nurse's devices.

Such is the "entertainment" which, in the face of municipal inspection, is to be obtained for a guinea or so in the heart of the West End of London, every day of the week—including Sundays. I need not enlarge upon its dangers; they are too obvious. Doubtless a good proportion of massage clients are elderly men of depraved habits. As such they require and deserve no protection. But what of the young men in search of the healing powers of legitimate massage? They are numerous. Ex-officers, with limbs still bearing the effects of wounds, or who are putting on too much flesh as the result of sedentary life after years of strenuous active service—these are two instances of many requiring massage establishments decently and properly conducted. There *are* such establishments, but from my experience they are rare. Indeed, in the course of pretty extensive investigations, I have *come across one and one only.*

The scandal lies not only in the difficulty of finding the massage shops where indecency doesn't exist, but in the dangers accruing from even one visit to a place where it does. A strong-minded young man may be revolted at once by his experiences in one of these foul cess-pits, depart in disgust, and never re-visit it. But, on the other hand, many a youth or grown man may be balefully influenced by their vile practices.

Only by the immediate closure of every massage institution other than those under the direct control of a resident and qualified medical man of unblemished reputation can the risks be removed. It is time the Home Office awoke to the degenerate vice flaunted in our midst, and to the danger of what is going on behind the doors of these pest houses of London. It is time also that the police bestirred themselves to hunt out these nests of decadent iniquity, which are a snare to the decent-minded as well as the resort of the depraved.

WHO GETS THE MONEY?

REVELATIONS REGARDING COST OF MEAT.

We were the first to point out that the Government, and the Food Ministry in particular, were among the chief of profiteers, and now before us is a meat bill—not the common household variety, but an account rendered by the East Midland Wholesale Meat Supply Association to a farmer in Northamptonshire. On a third-grade beast, for which the Association received £20 15s. 9d., the "head rate" or commission taken by the Food Ministry was £7 5s. 4d.—the balance to the farmer, less 7s. 6d. slaughtering fee, amounting to £13 2s. 11d. In other words, more than a third of the wholesale price of the carcass goes into the coffers of the Government. Passing to another item of this interesting account, we find that on a carcass priced to the butcher at a little over £8, the Food Control Authority levy the modest charge of £4 2s. 8d., the expense of slaughtering added to the Government commission being actually greater than the amount received by the farmer. Fortunately, this expensive control no longer extends to imported meat, but home-grown supplies are still at the mercy of the Food Ministry. Poor housewife!

THE PROFITEERING FARCE.

SECRET PARDON FOR EAST LONDON MERCHANT.

Wonderful are the ways of the Profiteering Committees. Not long ago a Stepney reader bought a gallon of olives for 14s., and, believing this price to be excessive, reported the facts to the Profiteering Sub-Committee. They ordered a refund of 4s. and a prosecution. However, at a later meeting they decided to re-hear the whole of the evidence. Everything was found in order, and once again it was solemnly decided to refer the transaction to the local Magistrates. Nevertheless, from the date of the Sub-Committee's original decision in January until the present moment, no further steps have been taken to vindicate the law. What is still more objectionable, the Sub-Committee, without notice to the complainant, have privately cancelled their Order—a piece of tomfoolery that must have hugely delighted the olive merchant, who thus escapes a possibly unpleasant interview with the Magistrates. The reasons for this amazing change of front have never been publicly stated, nor is any apology or explanation offered to the complainant—who ruefully reflects upon the time and trouble he has wasted in a vain effort to "nail" the elusive profiteer.

HUN HOPS FOR BRITISH BEER!

A BEVERAGE VERY "BITTER" TO PATRIOTS.

As we predicted, our—er, *late* enemy the Hun, has lost no time in getting to work to secure trade again in this country. But we are frankly amazed at the cool assurance of the author of the following, which we cull from a trade circular:—"To the Brewers of the United Kingdom: England, Scothland, Wales, Ireland: Gentlemen, my so very cheap stocks of Prima Fine Hops are continually exciting the lively interest of all Brewers. The entire Brewery of the United Kingdom have bought considerable lots and are continually ordering more of them. The goods are giving high satisfaktion everywhere and every brewery is saving a god deal of money . . . My faithful customers, my manner of conserving has been approved of generally." If it is true that the "entire brewery of the United Kingdom have bought considerable lots," probably that accounts for the strange quality of some of the stuff called beer which the British consumer has had foisted on him of late. Somebody is "saving a god deal of money" somewhere. But we hardly thought it would come to this so soon. It is a day of humiliation.

60,000 People

have already bought "The Amateur Mechanic"

and Still the Demand Increases, Because

THIS IS THE WORK THAT SHOWS YOU HOW TO SAVE MONEY IN THE HOME.

Do the Home Jobs Yourself in the Quickest, Cheapest and Best Way.

A pipe that bursts through fire or frost
Can be repaired at little cost.

HERE ARE ALFREDS SCHOOL BOOTS WORN OUT AGAIN - AND SHOE MAKERS CHARGES ARE RUINOUS THESE DAYS!"
"DON'T WORRY DEAR GIVE 'EM TO ME I'LL DO THEM!
I'VE JUST DONE MY OWN!"

Why pay what boot-repairers ask
When cobbling's such an easy task?

When paint requires renewing, *you*
Can do it—very cheaply too!

No need to call in Jones or Brown
If chair or table should break down.

IT TEACHES YOU HOW

If you should think of fixing shelves
Learn how to do the job yourselves.

To paint and paper a room—To sole and heel and patch boots and shoes—To make a pair of hand-sewn boots—To restore colour to old brown shoes—To make household furniture—To reseat chairs—To upholster sofas, etc.—To instal a speaking tube—To clean a Primus or other stove—To repair bicycles—To overhaul a motor-car—To repair a motor-cycle—To work in metal—To make a garden frame—To repair water taps—To varnish a violin—To remedy damp walls—To repair the piano—To make a padded chair from an old cask—To make mailcart and perambulator hood—To stuff animals—To dress furs—To stuff and mount birds—To do wood inlaying—To cure a smoky chimney—To prepare working drawings and how to read working drawings—To renovate a grandfather's clock—To make garden furniture, arbours, arches, seats, summer-houses, tables, etc.—To use metal-drilling tools — To renovate mirrors—To upholster furniture in leather cloth—To mend broken china—To do fretwork—To build a boat—To make a canoe, etc.—To lime-white poultry houses—To do gold-plating and silver-plating—To clean and mend watches and clocks—To distemper ceilings and walls—To make picture frames and frame pictures—All about curtain fittings—To make metal castings—To make tracing paper, waterproof paper, fireproof paper, etc.—To clean paint off glass—To fit up a motor workshop—To clean boilers—To fix an anthracite stove—To regild and restore picture frames—How to use spanners—To make doors and windows draught-proof—To paint walls—To make a garden path—How to do nickel-plating—To cure noises in hot-water pipes—India and glue varnishes—To clean and repair locks—All about acids for etching metals—Micrometers, how to make and use them—How to make plaster casts, etc., etc.

THIS IS MONEY-SAVING KNOWLEDGE.

Wallpapers are with ease renewed
No need for workman to intrude.

BUYERS' PRAISE.

MR. E. HARDING, Nottingham, writes:
"We are very pleased with these books. *With ten years' experience in Engineering I can vouch for the accuracy of the instructions given in some of the subjects.*"

MR. A. H. SMITH, Bermondsey, writes:
"The volumes are very interesting, especially the metal-working details, which are described in a clear, businesslike way. *I think the work is worth double what you charge, considering the variety of trades dealt with.*"

MR. J. MCGRAFFIN, Workington, writes:
"These books are full of useful information, and the illustrations are quite clear enough for anyone to learn from. *I am sure they will repay anyone who takes them if they only take up one of the numerous trades dealt with.* I am a boot repairer and maker, and I have been eleven years in that trade, so I think I should be able to judge what your articles on that trade are worth."

MR. W. O. BOYLAN, Beech House, Dublin, writes:
"Any person wanting more information than is contained inside the pages of these four volumes has no business on this planet. *In fact, without the letterpress, the photo-reproductions have shown me the error of my ways in the past* when I was trying to be my own mechanic."

MR. BIRCH, Mounton Road, Manchester, writes:
"*These books are simply fine, and they surpass all expectations.* I feel sure that if some of these chaps who are out of work could possibly find the money to buy the four volumes of the "Amateur Mechanic" there would not be much unemployment in the country, as *there is a trade in every page.*"

MR. COOKE, Vera Road, Fulham, writes:
"I have seen sufficient of them already to discover their value to me as a disabled soldier, I am more than certain that *what I learn from them will pay for these books in a very short time.* I have only had them a few days, but have already found them very useful. I am daily doing jobs of all kinds about the house."

MR. OLDHAM S. MOORE, Gravesend, Kent, writes:
"It is far better and more useful than you claim. *I could not have been better satisfied if the book had been written specially for me. It is worth twice as much as you ask for it.*"

MR. A. W. ADAMS, Ponders End, Middlesex, writes:
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THE LIGHT OF TRUTH—

BREAKS THROUGH THE CLOUDS OF CALUMNY.

THE WILL AND THE WON'T.

MEN PROPOSE BUT HIS LORDSHIP OF DOWNSHIRE DISPOSES.

But for serving their King and Country—and incidentally their late Lord, the Marquis of Downshire—overseas, certain worthy men would have benefited under the terms of his Lordship's Will. Naturally feeling that neither they nor the dependants of those killed should be excluded on this account, they petitioned the Solicitor and Executor of the late Lord. It was provided by codicil that any servant who had been in his Lordship's employment for three years at the time of his death would receive a year's wages. A patriotic man, the late Marquis urged all his employees to join up early in the war, so t can hardly have been in his mind to cut off without a penny those who answered the call. In the facts and circumstances one would have supposed that the present Most Noble Marquis, 26 years of age and succeeding to 120,000 acres, would have done something *ex gratia* for these men in the light of what must have been his father's intention. The Executor first of all replied that he has "no power under the Will to make any discrimination in the matter of legacies; he is bound to carry out the terms of the Will." It was then that we wrote regarding the matter to the present Marquis, personally. "The men to whom you refer," his Lordship says in reply, from Easthampstead Park, Wokingham, "were not in my father's employment at the date of his death and, therefore, they are, as you say, not legally entitled to legacies even if they come within the class to whom legacies are left, which I am advised is not the case. As a result of the war I have to face very heavy taxation in addition to very heavy death duties, and it is impossible for me to make *ex gratia* payments." There the matter ends, but we do not consider it ends in a way which the father would think does the son much credit.

THE POLICEMAN'S DRINK.

HARSH PENALTY IMPOSED FOR VERY TRIVIAL OFFENCE.

In some districts there seems to be a chronic state of guerilla war between licensed victuallers and the police, the most respectable publicans having all their work cut out to avoid the pitfalls dug for them by the over-zealous custodians of law and order. See what happened recently at Hereford. On the occasion of a public dance at the Town Hall, a constable attached to the Hereford City Police Force was present, not in the ordinary course of his police duty, but by arrangement with the promoters of the dance, who paid for his services on a scale laid down by the Watch Committee. Towards the close of the evening, one of the Dance Committee made the friendly suggestion that the policeman should cross the road and partake of a little refreshment at the "Golden Fleece," a hint no sooner accepted than, by a singular mischance, the Chief Constable of Hereford, Mr. Thomas Rawson, appeared on the festive scene. Finding no constable present, Mr. Rawson—as he explained later—"had his suspicions," and peeping into the smoke-room of the "Golden Fleece" he discovered Robert at the counter, with his helmet in one hand and a glass of beer in the other.

Legally, the sole question at issue was whether the police-officer could be said to be "on duty" at the time, considering that he wore no armlet and had done his full day's work in the streets before his arrival at the Town Hall. In the result, the unfortunate landlord, a man with an unimpeachable record as a licensed victualler extending over 30 years, was haled before the Hereford Bench and fined £10 and costs, the Chairman observing that "it was a very serious offence." It was not. It was the kind of thing that the most cautious publican might innocently have done.

A BASELESS CONVICTION.

STRANGE ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER OF A DYING WOMAN.

It is our habit to keep a sharp eye upon medical quacks. Still, we are far from satisfied that justice has been done in the case of Arthur Barker, of Stoke-on-Trent—not to be confused with the famous bone-setter—an unqualified medical practitioner, recently sentenced by Mr. Justice Sankey to four months' hard labour. It appears that Barker, an exminer, locally known as a "drugless healer," had been in the habit of prescribing for the minor ailments of his friends and neighbours, although without for a moment pretending to the possession of medical qualifications. The circumstances that led up to the charge of manslaughter preferred against him at the Stafford Assizes were altogether exceptional, the woman whose death was the subject of the charge having been given up by the regular doctors, who had ceased to visit her in her last extremity. In these circumstances Barker called upon her.

The post-mortem examination, upon which, of course, the case very largely turned, was naturally in the hands of professional men—suspected, not unreasonably, of a special bias against the defendant, their conclusion being that Barker had unskilfully performed a certain minor operation, thereby accelerating the woman's death. In the case of one whose end, as the doctors admitted, could not by any means have been long averted, this was an extremely slender ground for a manslaughter conviction, and it is not surprising that an extensively signed petition should have been presented to the Home Secretary, praying for Barker's release. In all the circumstances we feel bound to endorse this plea, although at the same time, and in view of the coal shortage, we strongly urge the amateur healer to go back to the mine.

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No. 7. Best Box Calf Welted, in Balmoral and Derby Shapes, pointed and rounded toes. In Black and Brown. Size 6 to 12.

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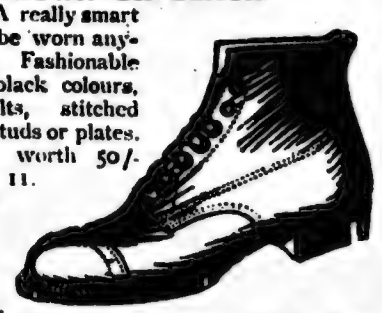

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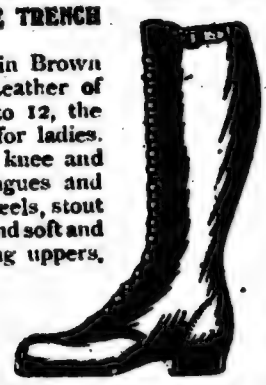

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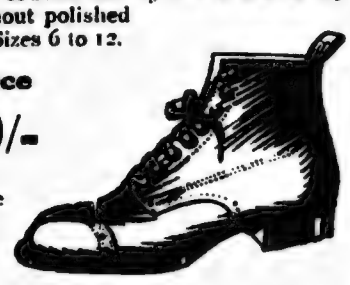

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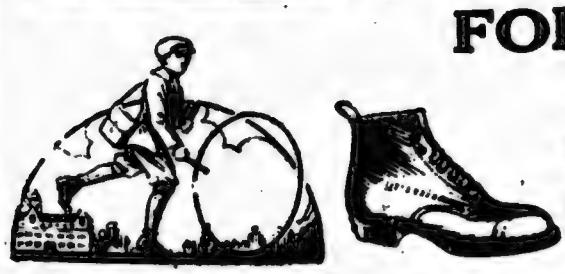
Sizes 11, 12, 13, 1. Good Stout Box Hide Boy's Boot, guaranteed solid leather throughout, Derby Shape, and at half the present store prices. In two qualities, **11/9 & 13/9.** Postage 1/- extra. Similar boot for Youths. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5. In three qualities, **12/9, 14/6,** also better quality, without toecap, **15/6.** Postage 1/- extra.



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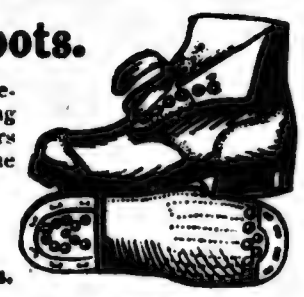
Here is the Boot: This magnificently serviceable boot was built to stand the severest campaigning conditions and to provide foot comfort for our soldiers in water, mud, snow or frost. If good enough for the British Army it is good enough for the British Public.

ALL SIZES 25/- Postage 1/- extra.

This Boot is far superior to Canadian or Australian Boots.



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Dept. 79, 186, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 2. (ADJOINING BISHOPSGATE POLICE STATION.)

The SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "John Bull" discuss matters of Public Interest.

In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 22.

A Dangerous Practice.

Why does not some M.P. introduce a Bill to prohibit motor-cyclists from conveying persons on the carriers of their machines? Not only have accidents been of frequent occurrence, but the sight of a girl in such a dangerous position makes the onlookers both angry and apprehensive. There is a type of person who cannot do the right thing instinctively, and who must be compelled by law.—M. R. Inglis, Castle Street, Edinburgh.

Menace to Health.

The authorities should devise some new method of clearing dwelling-house refuse. All persons anywhere near the vehicles when the bins are emptied—especially in windy weather—are nearly choked by the filthy dust, sweepings of sick-rooms, etc. Then one man is generally employed with a fork turning the refuse over for "finds." If this *must* be done, why not at the dumps?—not in the street.—F. W. Cottrell, Rectory Grove, S.W.4.

Test Questions for Socialists.

As Socialism appears to be gaining in strength, there are two questions we should ask its advocates—(1) What degree of division of labour can exist in a Socialistically organised community? (2) How can work be apportioned so that all will agree? From my experience, Socialists "tumble" to these questions, and either clumsily evade, or studiously ignore them—for the value, or otherwise, of Socialism is contained in their answers.—Henry Arnum, Flannel Street, Abergavenny.

Whisky *versus* Milk.

The authorities in Scotland, at any rate, have had a good innings against the publican for selling weak whisky. Certainly the publicans are swelling their pockets by so doing, but they aren't causing a great deal of harm to the nation. It would interest the public more to see the authorities pay the same attention to those supplying weak milk. For if we are to have the rising generation A1 class we certainly must have *pure* milk supplied.—M. McL. Matthewson, Oxton, Berwickshire.

"Filthy Lucre."

Bank, and especially Treasury, notes are in a filthy condition just now. Why a paternal Government with its "Ministry of Health" should permit these microbe-laden and disease disseminating bits of paper to circulate from hand to hand until they approach dissolution, is difficult to understand. On their face they may represent 10s. or £1, but as mere paper they are of trifling value. Why not call them in and replace them by clean notes?—Robert Young, Main Street, Slamannan.

Not Even Water!

Now that summer is getting near, the pedestrian in our dusty streets finds drinking water as unobtainable as in the Sahara. The few widely-scattered drinking fountains are generally in a dilapidated, filthy condition. Tea is insipid and costly. Beer is only on tap at fixed hours, while the price of minerals is outrageous. The municipal authorities ought to erect small kiosks at the principal crossings, where sterilised water could be obtained at a ½d. or 1d. per glass.—R. S. Young, Saville Street, W.1.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. D. Taylor.

"They Never Would be Missed."

So much of trouble daily round us whirls,
So many cares from which we would be free;
We well can spare the "Golden Apple Girls"
And Mary Pickford's domesticity.—
Harold Wynn, Alexandra Road, South Hampstead.

Soldiers' Raincoats.

We are to have a small, well-equipped army, and the pay and conditions of service are supposed to attract intelligent men to the ranks. Then why cannot the authorities make the men's clothing as comfortable as possible and somewhere approaching the usages of civilian life? The greatcoat is a garment which is very warm, but useless as protection against rain, and an impossible covering for summer wear. Soldiers should be issued with a mackintosh—khaki or blue, no matter. This would be a boon to the troops.—H. F. Hughes, Ardee Road, Preston, Lancs.

Relief of Rates.

In these days of rising rates and taxes, attention should be turned to the incidence of the Agricultural Ratings Act, by which half the farmers' rates are levied on the towns. This Act was passed years ago to assist the then distressed agriculturists. Now the positions are reversed, and seeing that the farmers to-day are rich and prosperous, it would be just and equitable for them to be compelled to pay their own rates in full, and by doing so relieve the poor ratepayers in cities and towns.—D. Taylor, Oldfield Place, Hotwells, Bristol.

"Spare Time" Blacklegs.

In the Trades Unions of Lancashire many hundreds of spare-time collectors are employed to get in the members' contributions to the various societies. It would be a generous act on the part of the Trade Union officials if they dispensed with these spare-time collectors and appointed their old members, who are disabled or unemployed as a result of war service to be whole-time collectors. Many of these spare-time men are earning good wages at their own jobs, and it would be no hardship to have to give up the collecting.—P. McDonough, Forest Street, Bacup.

Lapsed State Insurances.

Thousands were ruined by the war, but none suffered more than the small traders. Taken for the Army in hundreds and in thousands, those put to National Service duties, being paid wages, had to find weekly State Insurance dues. The war being over, they returned to business and the sums paid for Insurance were forfeited. The same thing occurs when a wage-earner becomes his own master. The sum of his premiums, great or small, is forfeited—no "surrender value" here, whatever. Can the Prudential, or any other private concern, do worse than this?—Joseph Mabes, New Street, Bakewell.

Business (Colonial) Government.

Jamaica carries a population of less than one million. She could feed two million. She imports meal, corn, meat and milk—all of which she could produce in large quantities. She brings in from America coal to run her railway, when she has an abundance of water and with it unborn electrical power. British Honduras and British Guiana are practically undeveloped. Colonial Governors should be trained for their job and given business knowledge, a business edge and business go.—T. MacDermot, Lincoln Road, Kingston, Jamaica.

London's Pillar Boxes.

When will the Post Office attend to London's neglected pillar-boxes? Perhaps the new Controller, Mr. Sanderson, can get busy and remedy a deplorable state of affairs. The time-plates were removed or obliterated during the stress of war service and depletion of the Post Office staff, but it is high time there was reorganisation on a permanent basis, and the pillar boxes repaired. And is the Post Office so poor that it cannot afford a coat of red paint? Most of the boxes are a perfect disgrace to the richest city in England.—Miss Meggy, Victoria Grove, W.8.

Plea for Plain Language.

The authorities responsible for public notices seem deliberately to use language which is confusing. A "Notice to *Carmen*," in the window of an eating house, in reference to the new Lighting Order, states that the carrying of two lights on vehicles is now obligatory. I heard the following dialogue between two drivers. A: "What's 'obligatory?'" B: "Why, it means you can please yourself." I asked another carman, and he thought it meant the same. Why not state, "All carmen *must* now carry two lights in front"?—H. A. Marsh, Holloway Road, N.19.

Waste in the Coal-Mines.

Thousands of tons of coal fit to be consumed are wasted in the mines every day. We colliers are not allowed to fill any small coal, by official orders—the result being that it is thrown where rubbish is shot, and can never be recovered. From small coal five to seven classes of fuel can be made, such as stovesse, "beans," "peas," etc.; whilst with the finest small patent fuel briquettes can be manufactured, realising from £1 to £2 per ton. A law should be passed compelling us to fill small coal. It is a national asset.—D. Lloyd Morris, Tyisha Road, Tunble, Llanelly.

Spreading Infection.

In view of the risks run by the public of contracting contagious diseases, the system of sick visiting in connection with benefit societies should be revised. I have been at home suffering from influenza, and the official visitor of my society informed me that he had just come from a house where they were all suffering from "flu," and was then going to visit a patient suffering with German measles! Now, assuming that the visitor himself remains free from contagion, he cannot fail to carry germs from one house to another. The Ministry of Health should consider how to avoid this grave danger to public health.—Edward J. Jenkins, Speldhurst Road, South Hackney.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

Let Foch and Winston still agree
And 'twill be well with you and me.

The miners spurn nationalisation,
To Smillie and Co.'s consternation.

The feud 'twixt Asquith and Lloyd George
Begins to raise the public's gorge.

Pussyfoot's going leaves no pain:
We hope he'll not come back again.

Ladies!

Keep Your Men-Folk Well-Dressed

If for no better reason, because it pays. It reflects credit on you, and increases their credit. Urge them to get at least two Government Suits at £3 3s. 0d. each. They will be well dressed for a very long time to come.

Excellent Material

You cannot go wrong in so doing. The suits are strongly made of excellent material. It was woven according to Government specification and has been subjected to severest tests.

Best of Workmanship

The same thing applies to the workmanship in the suits. Had they not been well-tailored the Government would have rejected them.

But Satisfy Yourself

Pay a visit to any Men's Clothier and examine them for yourself. He will be glad to show them to you, for you know value in clothing when you see it. When you have seen them your words will carry weight as you urge your men-folk to practise economy by buying promptly.

Obtainable Everywhere

They are obtainable from enterprising clothiers everywhere. Only if you live in country villages or outlying districts will you experience any difficulty in getting them. In that case kindly send your name and address, but please send no money. We will speedily put you in touch with either a retail mail order house (***who will send suits on approval on receipt of the full price***) or with the nearest clothier who stocks them.

Government Suit Dept.

(*Wholesale only*).

33-37, Alfred Place, Tottenham Court Road, London——————————W.C.1.

St. James's. 11.

IMPORTED AMERICAN ASSASSINS.

DOUBTLESS no one in the past has said harder things about Sinn Fein than have I. In the early days of the movement I characterised it as at reasonable rebellion against Britain and called for its suppression by all the forces of the Crown. That, after all, was but the natural attitude for any public journalist to adopt—especially as the movement, like every other incipient rebellion, was marked by outrage and murder. Then there was the etymological meaning of the term "Sinn Fein"—contemptuously bestowed upon the agitators by Mr. John Redmond—"Ourselves Only," which conveyed to the ordinary British mind a selfish, sectional and isolated propaganda. And I confess that my attitude remained substantially unchanged until the General Election of December, 1918. When I then found not only Unionist but Nationalist seats falling like ninepins before the Sinn Fein onslaught, I began to ask myself the meaning of it all. I could not get out of my ears the echo of that war-cry, foisted upon us by Mr. Wilson, "Self-determination"; and when I saw as many as seventy-three seats won by these "rebels," I felt that a fresh situation had arisen in the history of Ireland, calling for new ideas and new methods. It was manifest that, for good or evil, Sinn Fein had won the day; and that with the exception, speaking in general terms, of Ulster—the population of which strictly is not Irish at all—Ireland had definitely thrown over her allegiance to Britain. And this view was crystallised and emphasised when, on the assembling of the new Parliament, not one of the Sinn Fein members put in an appearance—with the result that real Ireland is no longer represented at Westminster.

My Change of View.

Now had matters remained in that condition I should not have hesitated to come out boldly on the side of the Sinn Feiners, and should have pressed their claim for constitutional recognition—on the principle, which is part of the alphabet of democratic government, that "the will of the people must prevail." What, however, kept me back, and what continues to do so, is the appalling list of crimes and outrages which is to-day a part of the regular contents of the newspapers. I do not need to be reminded that the struggle for almost every reform worth winning has been marked in its early stages by violence and frequently by bloodshed, especially when there has been a religious or sectarian element in the controversy. But there were callous and sinister aspects of the Irish campaign which gave us an excuse for thinking that Erin's sons were almost outside the pale of humanity. And that is why until a quite recent date I was out for putting all Sinn Feiners under lock and key. And now let me say candidly what has to a large extent changed my view. It came about in this way. I was sitting in the House of Commons listening to the recent Home Rule debate, and Sir Edward Carson was speaking. And I waited eagerly to see in what way he would deal with this question of Irish crime. I am glad I remained to hear him. In a passionate outburst he declared, "I will never believe that the authors of these outrages are my countrymen. I believe them to be ill-conditioned men imported from America, as the result of an anti-British agitation which the Government has taken no active steps to counteract." Those words sank deep into my mind. I believe them, and believing them I shall decline, in the absence of full evidence, to condemn the true Irish race for deeds which I have always been unable to reconcile with their warm-hearted temperament—deeds, indeed, which are infinitely more characteristic of occurrences in certain parts of the United States.

Send Them Back Again.

It is in this chastened mood that I look upon the present lamentable state of things in Ireland, where nearly a hundred men have been taken from prison to the hospitals, in a precarious condition, having been on hunger strike as a protest against what they regard as British oppression. Let me say at once that, so far as any of this number of men were convicted of actual crime, they have no sympathy from me. Irish or American, if they have committed outrage against human life they must pay the penalty. At the same time, I shall be deeply interested in ascertaining their exact nationality and antecedents. There are, however, two other classes of prisoners with whom the case is entirely different. First, those awaiting trial. It has always been a principle of British justice that until proved guilty every man is considered innocent. In England any prisoner on remand is entitled to various privileges and to a certain amount of freedom. Why should these be denied to Irishmen—or, for that matter, even to imported Americans—against whom no conviction at present stands? But infinitely more pressing is the case of the other class of prisoner, the man who is arrested purely on suspicion. I say it is monstrous that he should be treated as a criminal. The "Castle" would be better occupied in tracing out the nationality of the imported assassins to whom Sir Edward Carson refers, and sending them home.

"About It—A

A Weekly Commentary Upon M

By THE E

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I SUPPOSE it was to be expected that the publication of the Life of Lord Kitchener by his friend and secretary, Sir George Arthur, would encourage the groundlings of the Press to renew the campaign of slander and misrepresentation which preceded the great soldier's tragic death in June, 1916. Happily, the public memory is not so short as to have forgotten the genesis and history of the vile plot that was intended to dethrone Kitchener from the pinnacle of popular favour and to establish in his place, at the very crisis of the war, some pliant tool of the politicians. How vivid is the recollection of that shameless intrigue, pursued with a malice seldom equalled even in the squalid arena of politics!—and now they are at it again, unable even to respect the glorious memory of one whose name stands as the supreme embodiment of British valour and patriotism in the great testing-time of war. I can do no other than seize the occasion as an opportunity to utter a few thoughts that have been much in my mind since Victory crowned the great work of our lost leader—a Man if ever there was one, whose mighty qualities these puny scribblers are unfitted even to comprehend. Now that it is happily all over, the honest mind can see Kitchener's great service to the Empire and to the wider cause of human Freedom in all its scope and magnitude. Consider, first, the Man. None who met him will ever forget that masterful personality, the very incarnation of an unalterable purpose, scorning the tricks and graces by which lesser creatures curry favour, intent only upon the great business in hand.

His Glowing, Inspiring Patriotism.

That was one aspect of his great character, but there was another that shall never be forgotten while I live to proclaim the truth. Deep down in the heart of this big, strong man was a burning passion for Britain—a glowing patriotism that inspired his life and ennobled his death, making of both a glory and an example for all future generations. Those lines of Meredith's leap to the mind: "Be it written that all I wrought was for 'Britain—in deed and thought'; be it written that while I die 'Glory to Britain' is my last cry." So Kitchener might have said. So in effect he did say to his half-hearted associates while he lived, to shame their hesitancy and indecision, and at last to the cruel waves that claimed his body only to release his immortal soul. All this, it seems, the hacks of Fleet Street have forgotten. Alternately they traduce his memory and damn his fine record with faint praise, while others drag in the names of living soldiers in a petty controversial spirit, as though "K. of K." could be *compared* with any one of them! He was unique, incomparable. Who else, think you, could have done what he did for Britain in her hour of deepest need? Give me names. Who else could have created Kitchener's Army? What other name would have served to fire the patriotism of the nation, to rally the spirits of the "First Hundred Thousand," and to send them out in record time, equipped to the last man, to conquer or to die? This was part—a small part only—of our great hero's immortal task; and yet to-day—less than four short years from his death, and on the publication of a "Life" that, irrespective of its literary qualities, will rank with the great biographies of history, because of the greatness of its subject—reviewers can be found to write that "Lord Kitchener was slow to realise the enormous scale of the effort required," and to complain that "no direct answer is made to the criticisms of Lord Kitchener's administration at the War Office." The truth is, of course—and by this time, thank God, it has passed beyond the regions of denial—that "K. of K." was the only man who *did* accurately forecast the scope and duration of the war; while his administration of the War Office—where, as Sir George Arthur tells us in a pregnant aside, he could not at first find even a decent pen to write with (nor, I may personally add, a telephone to speak on) was amazingly efficient, having regard to all the difficulties and especially to the persistent attempts of jealous rivals to crab his efforts for their own ends. But that is not all. It is not in the spirit of

...And About."

...Matters of Public Importance.

...EDITOR.

...CHENER

...ND

...CURS.

niggling criticism, or even in the detailed appraisement of particular acts or policies, that one can do justice to the memory of this Architect of Victory. In a very deep and real sense it is true to say that it was the valiant spirit of this Man that won the war, hurling the Hun from the iron pedestal of despotism, and flinging open the gates of Freedom for the march of invincible hosts. His was the name that all respected. His was the voice that all could hear. An idol, an ideal—call it what you like; a man with the mystic qualities that are summed up in the one word—Leadership. And remember this: The personal equations of to-day are not those of yesterday. The passage of six years witnesses strange developments. Who was there in August, 1914, in whom we could have placed implicit trust as we did in Kitchener of Khartoum? Mr. Lloyd George, for all the splendid reparation that he since has made, was then known to have weakly vacillated on the question of war with Germany—add to which he was profoundly mistrusted by at least half the nation. No politician could have rallied the people as did this wise, strong, resolute soldier with the reputation of invincibility earned on a score of stricken fields. As I shall ever hold, Destiny was at work, and the Hour produced the Man.

The Soldier the Empire Believed In.

At this moment, I have my own legitimate pride in the reflection that from the outset I set my teeth against the miserable intrigue that was intended to drive Kitchener from office and to rob the nation of his splendid services at the most critical hour of its fate. On that dark day when we were overwhelmed by the news of his death—that still unexplained tragedy that seemed to epitomise the agony and bereavement of a tortured people—this journal actually had an article in course of printing entitled "Hands Off 'K. of K.'," and I let it go forward, announcing the fact that it had been written and was actually being printed before the news of the tragedy arrived. I felt that, labouring as I was under a crippling sense of loss, I could frame no more suitable tribute to his memory than this plea for justice and fairplay. I pointed out that, in the face of difficulties before which nine men out of ten would have stood hopelessly cowed and beaten, Kitchener had at that date succeeded in creating a fighting force bigger than any British statesman had ever dreamed of in his wildest imaginings. I showed how the Empire believed in him—how the Allies admired and trusted him. To our comrades-in-arms across the water, as to ourselves, he was the very embodiment of British grit and determination, of that hardy perseverance which never knows when it is beaten, and therefore never *is* beaten—as a thousand episodes in our glorious history prove. All this I emphasised, and then, conscious of the real feeling of the people, as distinct from the politicians, I warned the Government that the whole influence of this journal should be used to hound them from office rather than Kitchener should be sacrificed to the intrigues of jealous rivals. And even as my words were being printed, the *Hampshire*, with its priceless freight had foundered off the Orkneys. Death had saved him from the unmerited dishonour that his envious foes had planned. In the ineffable mercy of Providence, he had been spared long enough to perform the essentials of his mighty task. "Kitchener's Army" was in being; its early laurels already won. Then came his majestic passing; it implies a poverty of thought and imagination to speak simply of his death. For such men there is *no* death. He was called to join those of our gallant sons who had already crossed over to the land of the Immortals. He had made mistakes, I am told; probably so, for he was human. But it is blind criticism that sees only the mistakes and ignores the Miracle. Yes, the miracle, for it was nothing less. Solely through the wizardry of his great name, Kitchener created an Army. On that single achievement his reputation stands secure. Thank God, no hireling pen can detract from the honour which it is the privilege of every British patriot to render to the great memory of Kitchener of Khartoum!

"SHOT AT DAWN" AGAIN.

WHILST I am grateful to Mr. Churchill for having introduced into this year's Army Annual Bill many of the recommendations of my Courts-Martial Committee, I am profoundly disappointed that so far he has not seen his way to give a right of appeal to the soldier condemned to death. Apparently he has been swayed by the same considerations which influenced the majority of the Committee, mostly military men, who resent any kind of civilian interference, as they regard it, with the discipline of the Army; although one distinguished and enlightened officer, Major Christopher Lowther, joined Mr. Stephen Walsh and myself in the Minority Report urging reform. Again, in the House of Commons, we had the same old arguments trotted out. Under the existing system, we were told, the soldier gets a much better chance of "mercy" than would be the case with the Court of Criminal Appeal; and great stress was laid on the fact that about 90 per cent. of the death sentences were commuted by the Commander-in-Chief. Now, first of all, it is not Mercy for which I plead—it is Justice. As Major Lowther pointed out during the debate (I was unfortunately precluded by an important public engagement up North from being present, and the Government Whips declined to grant 48 hours' adjournment of the Bill), the prerogative of mercy could still remain with the Commander-in-Chief, as it does with the Home Secretary in civil life. What we desire to see is that the fighting man shall be protected by all the legal safeguards and rights accorded to the meanest civilian when charged with a criminal offence. At present his interests are left to what is called his "friend"—who is frequently not a lawyer at all, and is generally a junior officer and unversed in the law of evidence and the art of cross-examination; whilst as regards the constitution of the Court-Martial itself, it is often devoid of any kind of legal guidance. True, the proceedings are subsequently "reviewed" by the Judge Advocate-General or his representative, but he has no full and adequate notes before him, he hears no arguments on either side, sees no witnesses and is guided entirely by a condensed and often garbled summary of the case.

"Indispensable to Discipline"!

We are told that the system which permits such a state of things is indispensable to the discipline of the Army. I don't believe it—and I certainly do not appreciate the mental attitude of the Divisional General who, we were told by Lt.-Col. Hurst, M.P., paraded the whole of his Division in order to see the death sentence carried into effect. After all, it is the promulgation, and not the physical carrying out, of the sentence which is the disciplinary act, and I deny that any serious inconvenience would be entailed in sending the proceedings for revision, subject to such Regulations as might be made by the Court of Appeal with military assessors—or at any rate to some quasi legal tribunal. Even under the present system a considerable delay occurs before the death sentence is executed. First of all, the papers have to go to the Commanders respectively of the Brigade, then of the Division, then of the Army Corps, then of the Army, and finally to the Commander-in-Chief—with the result that a considerable interval elapses before the accused man knows his fate! But was there ever a stronger condemnation of it than the other argument used in its favour—namely, that only ten in a hundred death sentences are carried out? In other words, even with the imperfect method of revision I have described, the Commander-in-Chief and other high officers came to the conclusion, ninety times out of a hundred, that the Courts-Martial were wrong—although on what principle they act Heaven only knows! For I once more recall with indignation that case of "Shot at Dawn" in which a young officer—a mere lad—a member of a gallant fighting family—was taken out in the grey morning, placed against a wall and shot like a dog, notwithstanding the fact that every member of the Court-Martial which sentenced him had recommended him to mercy. Yet in the debate in the House of Commons, Mr. Harold Smith exercised his lawyer mind in the attempt to argue that if there was less justice there was more mercy in the Army, while another apologist, Mr. Hopkinson, asked Parliament to believe that the ordinary Tommy was in favour of the existing system. "Shot at Dawn" is the sort of tragedy which I want to prevent recurring, by granting the right of appeal from the death sentence; and that is why I intend to pursue the subject upon every appropriate occasion. That my proposal is not the mere idea of a non-Service man is evidenced not only by the signature of Major Christopher Lowther, for I find on referring to the Division List that the following officers voted for it last week—Major Barnes, Major J. Edwards, Major Entwistle, Major Hayward, Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy, Lt.-Col. Malone, Capt. James O'Grady, Capt. J. Tudor-Rees, Major C. Lowther, Brigadier-General Sir O. Thomas and Col. P. Williams. Perhaps Mr. Churchill will duly reprimand these gallant gentlemen for attempting to undermine the discipline of the Army! Meanwhile, Tommy may trust to me.

AN IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

MR. WILLIAM AIRD, The Germ-Proof Man: *By Our Extra-Special Reporter.*

Learning that Mr. William Aird was in London, I unhesitatingly directed my steps to Tottenham Court Road, where I found the Germ Defier in a lounge over a fruiterer's shop, squatting on his hams and nibbling a nut in the approved fashion of our remote ancestors. So absorbed was he in the task of extracting the kernel from the shell that it was not until I made a noise like a carrot that he noticed me.

"Take a seat. Have a nut," was his greeting.

Waving aside the proffered refreshment, I sank into a chair and regarded the object of my quest with curiosity. I could detect no stronger evidence of our simian origin in him than appears in the average man, not even when he turned round to reach for a banana and presented his back to me.

"You claim to be germ-proof?" I queried.

"I do," was the reply.

"I have here," I continued, "a hypodermic syringe and a culture of typhus germs in solution. Will you permit me to make a practical test?"

"It is quite unnecessary," he replied, hastily. "I *know* I am germ-proof."

"But *I* don't know," I retorted.

"You may take my word for it," he said, with manifest uneasiness. "Have a leek."

"You had better eat that yourself," I said, meaningly. "Upon what do you subsist?"

"On uncooked vegetables and fruit," replied Mr. Aird, evidently vastly relieved to get away from the subject of a germ test.

"Including ca-barge and ca-rots, I presume?"

"They are the chief articles of my diet," was the reply.

"You have a good appetite?" I asked.

"Fine! I enjoy my food immensely. I have all the gusto for it that the monkey has for nuts and the rabbit for dandelion leaves."

Mr. Aird spoke with enthusiasm, helping himself to a raw potato the while.

"You stated the other day that 'a person is born with all the energy he will use during life. Food does not add to it; it takes vitality away. The more one eats the sooner one will die.' Do you stand by that?"

"Most assuredly."

"Then why," I asked, "do you eat at all? If you were born with all the energy you will use during life, why do you bother to chew raw veg.? Why dissipate your vitality?"

"Er—I maintain that a child is born with a sufficient supply of energy for the duration of its life, but it must, of course, eat for the purpose of growth."

"But *you're* done growing?" I demanded.

"I—er—h'm—that is, I presume so," stuttered Mr. Aird, in some confusion.

"Then, according to your own theory, you have no excuse for eating," I continued.

"You take me too literally," protested the Apostle of Rabbit Food.

"You should not speak so dogmatically, then," I retorted. "All men are not alike. You may possess the double stomach of the ruminant, and chew the cud in secret. But it does not follow that I am similarly gifted. By the way, is there any money in your fad? Of course you are writing a book. That goes without saying. Most cranks sooner or later exploit the gullibility of the public. By the by, do you like grass?"

"I don't quite catch the drift—"

"Because, if you do," I continued, "my front lawn is badly in need of cutting. Let me give you my address. Perhaps, when you have nothing better to do, you will come and graze it smooth for me. Good-day."

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"Loughborough Monitor"—"One thousand two hundred Easter eggs, each bearing a TAXI, were distributed . . . . among the hospitals."

"Daily News" (advertisement):—"Send Cash with order—YOUR MONEY will be refunded in full, IF NOT ENTIRELY APPROVED OF."

"Glasgow Citizen" (advertisement):—"Widow has BEDROOM TO SHARE, RESPECTABLE TRADESMAN."

"Scotsman" (advertisement):—"Housekeeper (working) wanted for SINGLE GENTLEMAN . . . TWO SONS occasionally home for holidays."

"Motor Cycle" (advertisement, April 8th, 1920):—"ONLY 8 MORE DAYS . . . EASTER will be upon us in ANOTHER EIGHT DAYS."

"Richmond and Twickenham Times" (advertisement):—"DAILY WORK REQUIRED; Millinery, Plain Sewing, old; FETCHES BALL LIKE A DOG."

"Evening Argus" (Brighton):—"He was hoping that, perhaps, some person . . . might like to present a WIDOW, which would make that side of the church very nice and in a more finished state."

"Bazaar, Exchange & Mart" (advertisement):—"For sale—'s lawn mower . . . ONLY USED DOZEN TIMES, AND THEN TURNED LAWN INTO FLOWER GARDEN."

Sir H. Rider Haggard (in *When the World Shook*):—"NOT ONE WORD did he breathe of his dark plans to me, and STILL LESS to Bickley."

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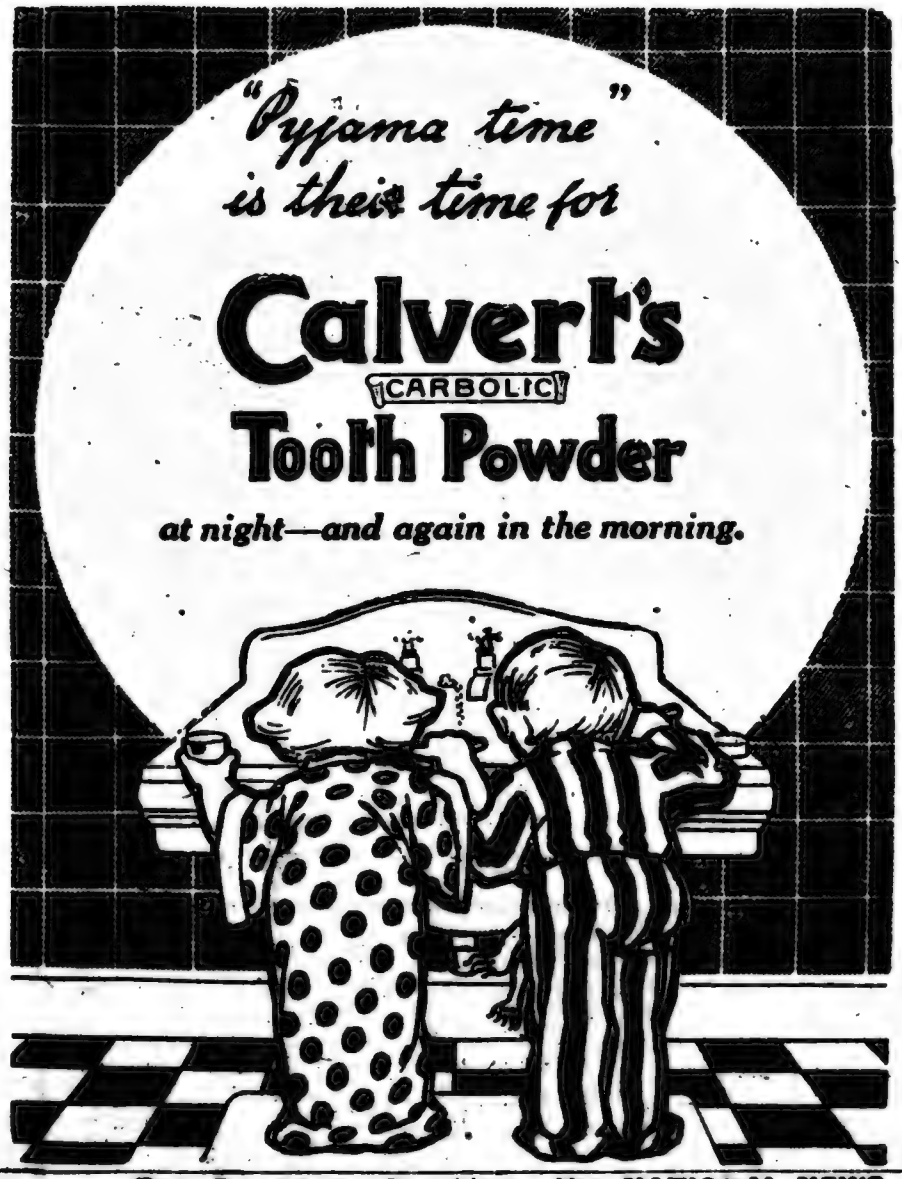

JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

The Chester Cup is likely to be ruined as a medium of speculation by the handicapping of Chat Tor. The Manton-trained four-year-old has been treated with ridiculous lemency. When wagering opens on the race Chat Tor will be established a good favourite, and has only to keep well to start at an absurdly cramped price. Mr. Singer's colt was left the major part of a furlong when finishing third in the Manchester November Handicap. His weight, 7 st. 7 lbs., in the popular long distance Roodee Handicap will allow of a jockey like Shatwell riding, and that middle-weight jockey knows the quaint course well, for he rode Tom Pepper to victory in the same race last year. However, we shall have enough chance of discussing the race and endeavouring to find a danger to what looks another benefit for the Manton stable. Meanwhile, we must give to-day's City and Suburban our immediate attention, and if only Viceroy will condescend to stretch himself as he does at home, another such scene will be witnessed as when Minoru won the Derby in the Royal purple. The Egerton House colt has quite a handy weight for a four-year-old. There is just a doubt about his quite lasting out the mile and a quarter, but the same doubt exists with Furious and Brigand, and we would as soon take the risk with the King's colt as any in the race. Should the going be really holding it will favour Furious more than it will the Cambridgeshire winner, and as Rizzio damaged his reputation somewhat at Newbury we shall look to Viceroy being returned victorious and expect Furious to prove the danger to him. The market on the Derby will seemingly undergo many changes between now and the end of next month. Possibly when the Two Thousand Guineas has been decided Tetratema will have "come back" and regained his old position in public favour. Anyway, we are not accepting the grey's defeat at Newbury too literally. Crack three-year-olds have been beaten before in the first week or two of the season especially when the turf has been as soft as in the present wet month. Tetratema is essentially a colt for the firm going. He ran all his racing last year when the ground scarcely pinched at all to the hoof. When next he hears his feet rattle we shall most likely find him resuscitating himself. He would, in our opinion, have beaten Silvern at level weights at Newbury, unsuited as he was to the holding state of the track. The fall of two well-fancied Derby colts in one week was rather a dramatic turn of events for the Stockbridge stable. Disconcerting as it was, we know that Atty Reisse has far from lost all hope in Tetratema, and we are inclined to side with him: as to Prince Galahad, we should prefer to reserve judgment till he next carries a racing jacket. Whispers reached us to his detriment before he was beaten in the Craven Stakes, a race Wimasu would possibly have won had he been saddled for it. Gilpin's stable has not got into stride yet; when it does, such as Church History and Paragon will be catching the judge's eye, but his two-year-olds will not be ready just yet awhile. We shall also have to wait a month or so before Barling strikes a patch of form. He has again had fever in his stable, hence the reason for his moving quarters.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

Epsom—Wednesday.
Tadworth Plate.—Fernley.
City and Suburban.—Viceroy.
Hyde Park Plate.—*John Green.
Copthorne Plate.—Picking.

Sandown Park—Thursday.
Esher Cup—Santaquest.
Twickenham Plate.—Charles Cherry.
Cobham Plate.—*Rockrol.
Mount Felix Plate.—Killiney.

Sandown Park—Friday.
Claygate Plate—Glenday.
Stud Produce Stakes—Highlander.
Tudor Plate—Rara Avis.
Prince Albert Handicap—*The Speaker.

Stockton—Friday.
Hartburn Handicap—D'Anade.
Stockton Spring Handicap.—*Dorset.
South Durham Plate.—Royal Fancy.

Stockton—Saturday.
North Yorkshire Handicap.—*Carapace.
Fairfield Plate—Bucket.
Crathorne Plate—Frontier.

LAWN TENNIS.

If such crushes as we saw at Queen's Club last week are to be avoided, future covered courts championships will have to be played in the Albert Hall. The admission fee was raised to five shillings on the last few days, and many had to pay five shillings more for the privilege of a seat—yet still they came.

The National News—"The Sportsman's Sunday Paper"—is on the right lines when it deplores the prohibitive prices (largely due to restricted accommodation) for the mere plain person at the spectacular lawn tennis meetings. After all, it is now "everybody's game," and the best solution of the problem is more ample provision for the crowds. So who will build a covered court to meet the pressing demand, and thus follow the lead of the "New Wimbledon" movement?

W. Lock Wei, of China, and S. Dass, of India, are among the leading lawn tennis players at Cambridge University, and we now learn that one of Japan's best men is coming over for the championships. Surely it is the game on which the sun never sets! We must keep our sporting eyes on the Celestial Empire.

Result of Football Competition No. 29.

In the above Competition the following three competitors sent coupons each containing ten winning teams, and therefore divide the prize of £250:

Mr. W. Goulding, 18, Rock Road, Midsomer Norton, Som.

Mr. E. Taylor, 57, Addison Gardens, Kensington, W.14.

Mr. W. White, Church Hill, Helston, Cornwall.

FOOTBALL.

Many ardent football enthusiasts are coming to London from Huddersfield for Saturday's final with Aston Villa in the hope of establishing a "spectatorial" record in the way of a double. These hardy enthusiasts saw the Huddersfield Rugby team capture the Northern Union Cup last Saturday week, and they will be the happiest men in England if "T'other Coop" goes to their town. Meanwhile, it is good to know that the Huddersfield Town Club, threatened with transfer to Leeds—a subterfuge we strongly condemned—is now saved for its own people.

How many Cup-tie trippers will be lost in London next Saturday? It is common knowledge that hundreds of them in the old days never found their way to the Crystal Palace, or beyond King's Cross, where rival partisans were won't to start arguing in the local hostelries as to the merits of the team, and were recovered by their less exuberant friends after the match. "Dora," of course will now intervene, but we will wager that not a few lost souls will ultimately find themselves at Stamford Hill instead of Stamford Bridge!

BILLIARDS.

Much as we disagreed with his attitude towards the Billiards Championship, we deprecate the prevailing tendency to belittle Melbourne Inman, as though he had never been the great billiardist he was or is.

At the same time we admire the stand of Smith and Newman, either of whom may annex Inman's title, in rigidly refusing to be patronised by a start for an outside match. Start or no start, and victory or no victory, such a match—played as it would be away from the Championship environment and its accompanying tension—would not be conclusive evidence of Inman's present superiority.

Which is it of the present competitors in the Championship who contemplates retirement, after the present season? It is, we understand largely a question of health. Apropos of the Championship, our Scottish readers will be glad to know how popular Tom Aiken has made himself in London. His admirable deportment, and observance of the etiquette of the billiard hall, have earned for him the sobriquet of "Gentleman Tom."

ATHLETICS.

We recall the pious humbug of many people who floated into Parliament on the Coalition coupons, when they told the electors that our gallant boys had won the war (Bless them! and so on) and they were going to look to it that they would have ample provision for sport when they returned. Most of it was eyewash, of course, and they haven't raised a finger except to lift that useful £400 a year.

SCULLING.

The curious thing about Ernest Barry's visit to Australia to seek revenge on Felton is that, in the Antipodes, he is the better fancied man, despite Felton's victory on the Thames. The Parramatta is practically certain to provide equal conditions and a surer test of merit. We have our doubts, and rather fancy that in this, as in most other sports, youth will be served, even though the course be shorter.

READERS ARE INVITED TO VISIT
OUR NEW PEN DEPOTS:
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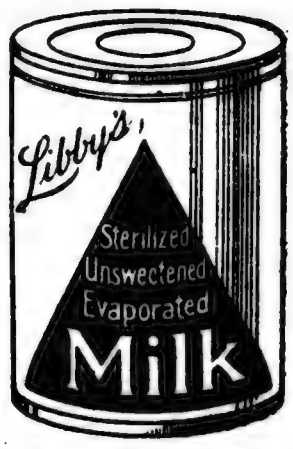
Write for our free booklet "Finer Flavoured Milk Dishes." It is full of recipes for delicious cream and butter saving dishes that will please the whole family.



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29

FIVE REASONS FOR—
GIVING YOURSELF A TREAT

THERE are FIVE good reasons why you should taste and try

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DELICIOUS LONG-LASTING SWEETMEATS

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ECONOMY is a feature of WRIGLEY'S that no other sweetmeat can rival. And the flavour lasts.

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All who like the delicious flavour of crushed ripe fruit should try WRIGLEY'S LATEST—WRIGLEY'S JUICY FRUIT.

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Enterprising retailers should write for attractive showcards, etc., to Wrigley's Ltd., 235, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E. 1.

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

Disappointed Padres:—Last year a Government Order was issued in India promising gratuities or a bonus to officers of the various branches of the Service, including chaplains; but, for some reason or other, the Government of India have decided that their own chaplains who served at the front are not to benefit by the concession. The Indian Government does do funny things where finance is concerned!

For Instance:—Troops who drew the increased pay from July last, and who were transferred to India, are denied the new rate in that country, and are granted only the pre-war rate, plus a small bonus. The units concerned are disappointed and according to the latest mail, are full of a bitter feeling—which does not make for happiness and contentment.

The Nippers' Complaint:—We appeal to the O.C. 2nd Leinster Regiment at Colchester, on behalf of his band boys, who have approached us with tears in their eyes. They go through a long and strenuous day's work, and have to retire to bed at 8 o'clock. No late passes are granted, and the lads, between 16 and 17 years of age, are not allowed to go into the town without giving a special reason. Therefore they never enjoy the "pictures" or any other form of amusement.

A Matter of Money:—Men who re-enlisted for two years with the Colours were granted a bounty of £20—£6 13s. being handed to them and the remainder being supposed to be paid in moieties on the 31st March of the two following years. However, the 2nd Border Regiment in Ireland are still waiting for the money they should have received four pay days ago, and we understand that other units are in the same boat. "Dub up," please!

"JACK."

Deplorable Neglect:—We receive letters from men demobilised from the mine-clearing service, complaining that they cannot obtain their discharge papers, and therefore cannot find employment or participate in the out-of-work doles granted to our discharged men. This oversight should at once be remedied.

Still Profiteering:—We hear from ships on the Mediterranean Station that the N.A.C.B. are still adding to that £7,000,000 excess profits taken out of the pockets of our soldiers and sailors during the war. They evidently find it difficult to break off an old bad habit.

Jack's Error:—£150,000 was offered to the Fleet as the naval quota of the money thus filched by the Canteen Board, but the Bluejackets' vote against this shows a majority of 29,097. We urge our friend Jack—and every Jack *is* our friend—to reconsider his decision, accept the money, and have it placed to the credit of our naval charities. We will support him.

Good News:—The scale of 28 days' annual leave to sea-going ships in home waters is now to be granted to submarines and other vessels in reserve, not part of the Reserve Fleet.

Our Daily Thanks.

From C. A. S., Ardwick, Manchester:—

DEAR SIR,—On Thursday last I wrote to you requesting your help in bringing my case before the Civil Liabilities people. Many thanks for the prompt manner in which this business has been settled by you after 14 months' delay. I have now received a draft for £50, as promised on October 19.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

False Hopes:—It is cruel for the War Pensions Committees to tell applicants for relief from the Civil Liabilities Fund that they have recommended them for substantial grants, when they are ultimately more often turned down by the Commissioners than not. This raising of false hopes cannot be too severely censured.

Not His Fault:—Messrs. Tubbs, Hiscock & Co., of Fore Street, E.C., have largely increased their premises since the war began, and could afford to be generous. One of their travellers enlisted; and, to their credit be it said, the firm made his wife a small weekly allowance—which was cut out in November last, with a threat that the man's situation would not be kept open because he could not force the authorities to demobilise him. Now they have relented so far as to offer this traveller an inferior inside job on small pay—as a punishment for his patriotism?

Their Way and Ours:—This is a sample of how some of our soldiers' so-called friends of the Press help them—"You would certainly appear to be entitled to gratuity for your war service. Consult your Paymaster." Our style is to take such cases to that official personally, and to have them settled for our readers in quick time.

Throwing Money Around:—There is an old saying that a Jew cannot live in Aberdeen. We believe it now. The papers there announced that publicans and hotel proprietors wanted ex-soldiers to take the places of female hands. A Forfarshire man made application, and the hotel keeper, who must have been in a hurry, wired him, "Kitchen work; 45s. a month. Can take you now. Wire. McConnach, Hotel Dinnet, Aberdeen." Hoot toot, mon, this extravagance will nae pay!

"The Greatest of These—"

Our "S.O.S." Appeal:—During the war we were excellently supported, for the guns were thundering then, and widows and orphans were being created hourly. Think of the present position. Over 4,000,000 soldiers have been demobilised, the many whom fail to obtain employment. They are granted an out-of-work dole for a certain period, and when that is finished they are left to sink or swim. Our soldiers offered to give up their lives for us. Don't see them destitute, with their women and the little kiddies who so often asked after "Daddy." Remember that even a shilling helps. Send it to us. You supply the donations. We bear all the expenses—and most willingly—of administration.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Very Hard Luck:—A returned soldier, like many thousands of others, cannot find employment. His home was in distress owing to various debts. To crown his sorrow, his wife gave birth to twins, both of whom died.

A Human Document:—A poor widow who cannot work has an invalid son, and her remaining child—a daughter—has contracted consumption. Her only income is small parish relief.

Waiting:—An ex-soldier's wife who was confined could not get her maternity grant owing to "the law's delays." Everything in the house was dark until we were approached.

Common Case at Present:—An ex-soldier who has no pension called upon us and was helped. He had been ill for 14 weeks, his wife is an invalid, and he was in arrears with his rent and insurance.

"On the Parish":—A widow with four children came to Long Acre. She depends upon parish allowance, and the unfortunate woman, being unable to work, could only see the workhouse ahead of her.

SAVE THE CHILDREN!

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

In the administration of this Fund we are constantly brought face to face with the appalling deficiencies of the Government War Pensions scheme. In a humble lodging at Camberwell lives an ex-Service man who "did his bit" at the most critical period of the war—afterwards returning home, broken in health, to pick up the threads of civil life. The poor fellow is suffering from a serious heart affection and chronic bronchitis, both aggravated by exposure in the trenches, and is certified by his doctor to be quite unfit for his former occupation of a waterside labourer, or indeed for any but the lightest employment; yet his Army pension amounts only to 12s. 8d. a week out of which to maintain a home and support four little children. The hardships of the situation having been brought to the notice of the Local War Pensions Committee, the only consolation the invalid receives is that his name is down on the list for some kind of special treatment and training; but for this he must wait his turn—while, as regards the immediate needs of his family, the Committee decline all responsibility. Less on his own account than for the sake of his hungry children, the ex-soldier appeals to us—and a grant from our "Greatest of These" Fund has relieved the immediate necessities of the position, although no such temporary assistance can absolve the authorities from their plain duty in the matter. At the same time, it is a high privilege to have had some small share in repairing the consequences of official neglect. In peace, as in war, the man who has worn khaki has the first claim upon our consideration, and we confidently appeal to the generosity of our readers to enable the good work to go on.

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the poor generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? All subscriptions or gifts of clothes, etc., should be addressed to The Hon. Treasurer, "Greatest of These" Fund, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Reepham Dancing Class Committee (per P.M.), £1 10s.; "A Constant Reader" (Beeston Hill), 2s.; Mrs. B. C. (Havant), 2s. 6d.; J. T. (Wimbledon), 5s.; "Grannie" (Southampton), 2s. 6d.; "Lts. both and Orion," 5s.; W. T. (Northwood), 10s.; Mrs. B., 10s.; J. G. (Walsall), 5s.; W. K. (Port Talbot), 5s.; H. N. (Bath), 1s.; "Scotch," 10s.; M. D., 2s. 6d.; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; A. C. C. (Rye), 5s.; "A Bottomleyite," 10s.; "In Memory of Our Dear Son, G. M.," 2s. 6d.; W, £1; "Oxo" (Hammersmith), 2s. 6d.; "English," 10s.; "Sassenach" (Maryhill), £1 1s.; Officers, Engineers and Passengers of s.s. *Flaxmere* (per W. H. W.), £5; Mrs. W. H. K. (Swansea), 2s. 6d.; F. C. (Nunhead Grove), 5s.; E. B. F., 3s. 9d.; Mrs. P. R. (Darlington), 3s. 9d.; "Ex Royal Marine," 2s.; T. E. (Pontnewynydd), 5s.; M. B. (Bradford), 5s.; "A Soldier's Wife" (New Longton), 5s.; R. G. A. D., 15s.; "In Memory of Two Dear Sons" (per F. S.), 5s.; "Cabar Feidh" (Leith), 2s. 6d.; S. K., 7s. 6d.; G. F. P. (Bath), 5s.; "Old Contemptible," 1s.; "In Sympathy" (Watford), 2s. 6d.; J. H. B. (Harrow), 2s.; H. C. B. (Colchester), 2s. 6d.; "Kat's Eye," 1s.; P. E. P. (Stoke Newington), 8s. 6d.; A. B. (Mesopotamia), 11s.; K. K., 2s.; E. J. N., 5s.; "Thankful," 10s.; W. H. L. (Tring), 1s.; K. J. M. (Avoch), 1s. 6d.; L. A. H. (Withernsea), 1s.; "Southsea Beach," 2s.; Cooks, Butchers and Bakers of s.s. *Waimana* (per E. B.), £1 12s.; C. E. C. (Holborn), 10s.; W. G. (Bristol), £1; "Cafe," 5s.; J. S., 2s. 6d.; "Thoughtless," £2; J. M. (Raynes Park), 2s. 6d.; M. A. K., 1s. 6d. and parcel; J. H. D. (Cheetham Hill), 1s.; "Disabled," 1s.; Anon., 1s.; D. M. (Carnarvon), 1s.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; E. B. (Manchester), 5s.; Mrs. C., 1s.; F. M. C. (Copford), 2s.; "Disabled," 1s.; W. W. H., £1; F. R. (Inverness), 5s.; "A Happy Wife" (Battersea), 2s. 6d.; "Joan," 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Bath), 10s.; "J. J. R. 3rd" (Southport), £1; A. C. A., £2 2s.; "A Friend," 1s. 6d.; I. R. T. (Falkirk), 2s.; R. A. J., £1; "In Loving Memory," £5; "Fag," £1; Mrs. G. B. (Coventry), 1s.; A. S. A. (Newcastle), 1s. 11d.; W. F., 2s.; N. M. (Woolston), 1½d.; W. J. (Norwich), 1s.; "Margate," 5s.; St. Mary's R. C. School, Euxton (per Miss C.), 10s.; R. F. (New Southgate), 10s.; "Punch," 10s.; Miss O'N. (Meath), 1s. 6d.; M. H. (Gt. Yarmouth), 2s. 6d.; "Eight Aldershot Friends," 16s. 6d.; Mrs. S. B. (Bangalore), £1; The Bennett College (Sheffield), £1 16s.; A. B. (Croydon), 2s. 6d.

No observant reader will have failed to notice that our list of subscriptions is falling off, every week practically showing a decline. And the need is still as great as ever—even more so, as the Out-of-Work Donation to ex-Service men is being cut off, whilst civilian sufferers are now within the scope of the Fund. "A little help is worth a deal of pity."

A MAN'S DRINK.

Fry's PURE BREAKFAST

"THE ENERGY MAKER" Cocoa

Has won more awards than any other.

PLAYER'S

"COUNTRY LIFE"

Cigarettes (MEDIUM STRENGTH) PURE VIRGINIA TOBACCO

10 FOR 5½D.

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Smoking Mixture

In Two Strengths—MILD and MEDIUM

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The National Tonic Restorative

The wonderful record of Hall's Wine during the past five years has more than justified its claim as the national tonic restorative. Itself the prescription of a doctor, it has always received the support of doctors—although never to the same extent as to-day.

The war has proved the great worth and priceless benefit of Hall's Wine. It was the test of tests—and the result is seen in the increasing testimony and growing sales of Hall's Wine to-day.

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A doctor writing from Wimpole St., W., says: "Please send 6 bottles of Hall's Wine to my private residence. I have been 'overdoing it' and find Hall's Wine an excellent tonic."

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Hall's Wine

The great demand makes it difficult for many patients to get the Hall's Wine they need—but every effort is being made to hasten and increase deliveries.

The daughter of a patient writes: "My mother must have two bottles of Hall's Wine every week. She has taken to going without it in the mornings simply because of the difficulty of obtaining it, and she is not so well in consequence. You can have a doctor's certificate if you require it."

Large Size Bottle, 5/6

Of all Wine Merchants and Licensed Grocers and Chemists.

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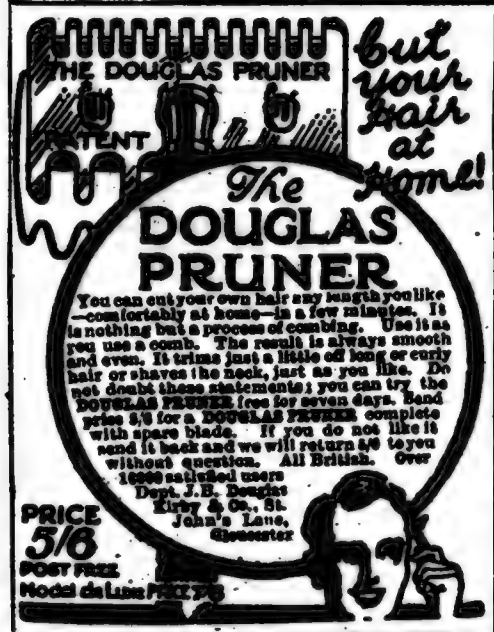
THE DOUGLAS PRUNER PATENT



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You can cut your own hair any length you like—comfortably at home—in a few minutes. It is nothing but a process of combing. Use it as you use a comb. The result is always smooth and even. It trims just a little off long or curly hair or shaves the neck, just as you like. Do not doubt these statements; you can try the DOUGLAS PRUNER free for seven days. Send price 5/6 for a DOUGLAS PRUNER complete with spare blade. If you do not like it send it back and we will return 5/6 to you without question. All British. Over 16000 satisfied users

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Warnink's Advocaat is the Original Old Dutch Liqueur. It is a splended pick-me-up and a delightful drink

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Only £2/7/6. Same size as a brick.—You can get it into any wall. In hidden position (as behind picture, furniture, etc.), giving absolute security. Best hardened steel door, good six-lever lock (no two alike), and secret device making keyhole practically invisible. Easy to fit in by yourself (list explains how) or bricklayer will do it in hour. Ideal for homes, hotels, vestries, shops, etc. Two sizes, 9 ins., £2 9s. 6d.; 13 ins., £3 15s. Send cash, paid on receipt of cash. Money back if not satisfied and returned sound in 10 days carr. paid. Dimensions and returned sound in 10 days carr. paid. Cement for fixing safe 2/- extra. Don't wait for urgent but order to-day before you suffer loss, or send for list and local agent to sole makers—

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JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

BY OUR CITY EDITOR.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Foreign Premium Bonds.

My Letter Bag is often heavy with appeals from small holders of such things as Panama, Congo, Ottoman and similar bonds, wishing to know whether their numbers have been drawn or how they can find out. These inquiries illustrate forcibly the unwisdom of going into a speculation without knowing the exact conditions. People who bought their bonds through a bank or trustworthy agents have little difficulty in obtaining the information they desire, or if their interest is sufficiently large it is worth their while to subscribe to a paper which gives complete lists of drawings. Unfortunately the small holder is not in that position. Most probably he (or often she) purchased one or two bonds from some shady agency, of which there were many a few years ago, but most of which have since disappeared. Usually there was an undertaking to keep the buyer posted as to drawings, but when the game ceased to be profitable the firm merely shut down or changed its name and address, leaving the holder in entire ignorance about his position. Generally speaking, bankers and respectable dealers decline the responsibility of watching lists, at all events for anyone except their own clients, and there must be many thousands of holders who have little chance of finding out whether they draw a prize or not. It is because I have always realised the importance to small investors of being kept in touch with drawings, etc., that I have consistently recommended Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell & Co., of Paris.

A Warning.

From a correspondent who is an expert in the steam fishing industry I have received some notes cautioning the public against subscribing to companies formed to exploit the business, without making the fullest possible investigation. His main points are: (1) that the vendors are selling old worn-out trawlers (some of which were laid up as useless before the war) at highly inflated and ridiculous figures; (2) that the vendors are appointing themselves as highly paid officials; (3) that said vendors also make themselves the official salesmen on a 5 per cent. commission, which means that they will receive 5 per cent. of the gross earnings, whether the boat makes a profit or not. It will be useful to bear these points in mind.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE AND THE BANK RATE.

On the same day as the last issue of this journal appeared the prospectus of the £7,000,000 London County Council ten-year bonds was advertised, the underwriters of the £2,000,000 Hertfordshire County Council loan were informed that they would have to take up 84 per cent. of the amounts they guaranteed, and the Government raised the discount rate on Treasury Bills from 5½ per cent. to 6½ per cent. There is a closer connection between these events than meets the eye, and it is certainly a curious coincidence that on the very day which I chose to denounce Government extravagance and preach economy the Treasury had to put up by 1 per cent. the price at which it is prepared to borrow. This step took the market completely by surprise, but it is only the inevitable first fruits of the rake's progress. Incidentally, it is a most unkind blow at the London County's big bond issue, which was offered on terms that looked decidedly attractive a week ago, but have quite a different aspect with a 7 per cent. Bank Rate in force. Fortunately the Council's financial advisers took the precaution of getting the issue underwritten for a commission of 1¼ per cent., an innovation which many people thought at the time was quite unnecessary, but the almost complete failure of the Hertfordshire loan would have provided ample justification, if any were needed. The chief point, however, about this sudden bulge in the value of money is that it is almost entirely due to the Government's mismanagement of the national finances, and the innocent have to suffer as well as the guilty. Not only are all purely financial operations gravely disorganised, but yet another burden is put on the country's industries. With the exception of a few days at the outbreak of the war, the Bank rate has not been so high as 7 per cent. since the autumn of 1907, when a panic in New York involved the London market. On that occasion it had only to be kept in force for a few weeks, but he would be a bold prophet who would attempt to put a limit to its operation under existing conditions. Of course Government and other fixed interest securities will again be marked down, and the National credit, which ought to be the Treasury's first care, will be dragged deeper in the mire. It is not a pleasing prospect.

Another Fat Bonus.

For a Company to pay off three years' arrears of Preference dividend and at the same time announce a share for share bonus on the Ordinary is something of a novelty, but the Savoy Hotel has achieved it. True, the Preference dividend was fully earned in each of the three years, but it could not be paid under the arrangement with the debenture holders. Thanks to the splendid profits earned recently and to the sale of the Grand Hotel, Rome, on favourable terms, it has been possible to pay off over half a million of debentures, and the balance of certain funds in hand enables the capital to be doubled, thereby raising it to £750,000.

A Good Offer.

Shareholders in De Keyser's Royal Hotel will probably consider the offer of £390,000 for their property too good to be rejected. They were shamefully ill-used by the attempt of the Government to annex the premises without paying any compensation, and even now the question is not finally settled, although everybody, except the Law Officers of the Crown, agrees with the judgment in the Company's favour. The present offer, it is estimated, will give a return of about 12s. in the £ to the Ordinary shareholders, and that is better than they could have expected some time ago.

British American Tobacco.

These have been quite a bright spot in an otherwise rather gloomy market, and it is generally anticipated that an issue of shares on favourable terms will be made shortly. Indeed, it is hoped to make an announcement in a few days. The sooner the better, for delay merely plays into the hands of people who are lucky enough to get early information.

The Odhams Press.

At last all legal formalities in connection with the important amalgamation of Odhams Limited and the Company owning this journal have been completed, and the shareholders in both concerns have now the opportunity of taking up 100,000 Preference and a similar number of Ordinary shares at par in the Odhams Press Ltd. They will doubtless eagerly avail themselves of the chance of increasing their holdings in a newspaper and publishing combine which bids fair to rival the most powerful existent. If there should be any shares over, the Directors announce that they and their friends will be only too pleased to have them.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

S. G. W. (Bristol).—*Lyle Export and Import:* I do not recommend this as an investment. It is not a very attractive-looking proposition.——J. K. M. (Errol).—*Suvoroff Taman* are extremely speculative under existing conditions, and I do not recommend French Premium Bonds owing to the difficulty of following drawings, which are not published here. *British Oil Cakes* is the best of the others mentioned. There is a fusion scheme on, and it is impossible to forecast the terms of purchase.——R. J. B. (London).—*Government Loans:* There is very little to choose between any of the securities mentioned. *Consols* have the best chance of capital appreciation, but if you want your money back in ten years take War Bonds, repayable at par 1927-29.——H. M. B. (Kew).—*3½ per cent. War Loan:* The stock must be redeemed at par (£100) between 1925 and 1928. You should hold on if you possibly can.——W. M. (Gorton).—*Consols:* I think you should hold, although I see no prospect of an immediate improvement. Holders were given the option of converting into War Loan Stock. I have recently dealt very fully, editorially, with the question of Government stocks.——H. W. (Hensall).—*C. Binks:* I do not recommend an investment, as far too large a proportion of the assets is represented by goodwill, patents, etc. Moreover, there will be no market in the shares, and you would find great difficulty in selling if you desired to do so. ——G. W. C. (Singapore).—*Premium Bonds:* Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co. did not decline to sell the bonds; they merely advised you not to do so as the loss would be far heavier than you anticipated. Owing to the depreciation in exchange the time is certainly not favourable for selling if you can avoid doing so. Their letter of March 21st is sufficient evidence that the bonds belong to you, and the fact that one copy of the agreement was lost has doubtless been overlooked. I daresay you will hear from Messrs. Davies in due course. The two firms are not connected in any way.——E. T. (Putney).—*Local Loans:* The fall in price is cruel, and I wish the Government could devise some means of dealing with hard cases like yours. It is, however, a very difficult problem, and no one could have foreseen the devastation caused by the war. Do not be tempted into speculative ventures, where you might easily lose the balance of your capital.——K. R. G. (Eastbourne).—*Sunday Pictorial:* You can buy the shares in the market round about par.——A. S. (Farnham).—*United Realisation:* The Company has a huge debit balance, and there is little prospect of the shareholders getting anything for many years to come.——J. B. (Braintree).—*French Bonds:* Complete lists of drawn bonds have not been published here; you could get them from one of the issuing banks or the agent through whom you purchased. There is no time-limit for claiming any premium drawn.——F. D. (Dover).—*Consols:* Your holding would realise about £31 at present. There is no prospect of the price rising to your level in the near future.——A. T. (East Ham).—*Chillagoe* has such a terrible debit balance that if an earthquake threw up a reef it would scarcely crawl out of the wreckage. *Abbontiakoons* have a better chance, but the gold in that region is so erratically distributed that the odds as a paying proposition may be put at 100 to 1.——PERPLEXED (Bristol).—*Rhodesia Exploration* and *Exploring Lands and Minerals:* Both are gambles, but I should average on the off-chance. *Ex. Lands of Nigeria* ought to come out right, and I think you might buy a few more.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)

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Fine Diamond Gipsy ring. **50/-**

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Soap and water remove only the surface dirt; OATINE removes all the dirt and oily secretions by cleansing the pores of the skin thoroughly.

Use OATINE CREAM at night, 1/6 and 3/-; and, before going out, use OATINE SNOW, 1/3 a jar.

SPEEDY LEATHER STITCHER for only 4/9

Speedy Automatic Lockstitch Awl for quickly and strongly sewing all Leather and Canvas—Harness, Boots, Belts, Bags, Tents, &c.—perfect Lockstitch as sewing machine but stronger. Save money, do your own repairs. Simple to use. Necessity in every home and workshop. Complete with 3 different blades and thread, 4/9, postage 3d. Extra thread, 9d. skein, 3 for 2s. Send at once. Instructions with Stitcher. J. PENN & CO., 142-144, Cottenham Road, London, N.19.

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Obtainable through a Savings Association, or from any Bank, Money Order Post Office or Official Agent. Or you can buy them by instalments by asking at any Post Office for 6d. Savings Stamps and a card (free) on which to stick them.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor, or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

W. B. (Woodbridge) and MANY OTHERS.—Glad you like the new "make-up" of our leader page.

F. D. (Maida Vale).—You did fine patriotic work for a man of 75, but we do not altogether sympathise with this universal clamour for medals. Apart from the "Objects," shirkers, wanglers, and profiteers, nearly everyone of us did something during the war worthy of a medal. You know the usual reward of virtue?

"ANONYMOUS" (Weymouth).—"Kindly tell me if the Kaiser is a Free Mason?" At present he is not supposed to be free, and his masonry has tumbled like a house of cards.

"FED UP CLERK'S WIFE" (Liverpool).—"It is far better for a man to take a road sweeping job than a clerkship under the Ministry of Pensions." It may be a far, far better thing, but not the only way to improve his position.

"SCOTTIE" (Kirkinner).—Praise and appreciation from a Scotch workman is balm to our soul. At 12 o'clock precisely we will seek the nearest hostelry and drink your health in barley brew.

"CONSTANT READER" (Wavertree).—"How many times did Mr. Asquith say 'Wait and see'?" Once too often.

F. T. (Peckham).—The causes of high prices are many. High wages, excess profits, exorbitant freight charges, and—chief of all—the inflation of the currency with paper money. A general strike would aggravate rather than cure the evil.

"DERBY'S CLOCK" (Plymouth).—When we last saw Lady Astor in the House she appeared to be quite well, thank you. You must not expect her to monopolise the Speaker's eye.

C. F. S. (Glasgow).—"An application per the National Union of Clerks for a 30 per cent. (War) increase of salary for Temporary Clerks, H.M. Civil Service, has been duly submitted, and, it is understood, only awaits Treasury sanction." With emphasis on the "only."

"BLUEBELL" (Newtownards).—You are much mistaken in supposing that we have any "spite against Scotland." On principle we have often tasted a drop of Scotch when we would have preferred a hock and seltzer.

E. P. W. (Natal).—You need not feel obliged formally to thank us for every article that pleases you, but as often as the spirit moves you we are tickled to death.

MRS. E. P. (North Driffield).—Glad you admire our "horn of wisdom," but cannot quite follow some of your Scriptural allusions. Do you jazz?

B. H. (Hayward's Heath).—Like you, we "fail to see" why there should be all this fuss over passports for visitors from the Dominions. To treat Britishers like foreigners is to tamper with the springs of patriotism.

W. H. (Toronto).—"Pleased to see that someone in England can print a paper regardless of Party politics." That's us to a fine shade.

G. W. (Westcliff-on-Sea).—"Can anything be done to stop this Daylight Saving?" No, sonny; and if there could, we wouldn't do it.

"EX-W. A. A. C." (Drayton Park, N.).—Your intelligent plea for Sunday games commands our entire sympathy. The recent decision of the L.C.C. is on all grounds to be regretted.

FATAH MOHAMMED SAYAL.—May Allah bless the Ahmadiyyah movement for its loyal address to the Crown. Ye are among the faithful.

"CUBAN" and OTHERS (Salford).—Increase of police pensions was carried against the Government. This notwithstanding, their present intent is to ignore the defeat and refuse to increase the pensions.

"CYMRO" (Rayleigh) kindly offers to the "Greatest of These" Fund a gramophone which cost five guineas four years ago, and sixty double records. Who bids?

C. McC. (Leytonstone).—"I am afraid, through the apathy of the average drinker, we shall find ourselves dry before long." Yes, about six times a day.

"COMPETITOR" (Custom House).—You "got nine teams' right" in a competition in another journal—not JOHN BULL, and you say "I ought to win some think." If they won't pay up that will be about all you will win.

"A GARDENER" (W. Dulwich).—You with your £2 per week wage envy the under park-keeper with his £2 14s. 8d. There are other poor devils who envy you your £2 weekly, and would gladly exchange places with *you*. Such is life.

A. F. S. (Ipswich).—The fact that it took only four minutes in which to repair your watch does not warrant your complaining of the charge of 1s. 6d. The man was entitled to a "bob" for knowing *how* to do it.

"AN EX-W.A.A.C." (Liverpool).—Do not agitate yourself because so-called comedians occasionally perpetrate broad, not to say coarse, jokes at the expense of the W.A.A.C.s. We remember quite well when clergymen's daughters were made to suffer in the same way.

"ARGUMENT" (Regent's Park).—"A chap in our shop abuses JOHN BULL and says the *Daily Herald* is the best paper going." Our opinion is that it's the worst paper not going.

G. W. (Upper Deal).—Your advocacy of the lady's case is chivalrous; but she doesn't complain and therefore we can't interfere.

J. J. (South Shields).—"Is it not horrible to think that we in England are being victimised by landlords to such an extent?" Quite. And, at the same time, a good many honest landlords are being victimised by their tenants.

"OLD CHARLIE" (Oldham).—"I am told you are an Oldhamer." Ah, well, we have been called worse names than that.

T. D. (Hereford).—We were certainly not aware that it was "against the commandments of the Lord" to fill up a census paper. You look like being in the soup next year.

"READER" (Finsbury Court, E.C.).—Generally speaking, we would give widows the preference over married women, although circumstances alter cases—as the boy said when he swallowed the jam-jar.

R. E. W. (Tufnell Park).—We note that you differ from Sir Eric Geddes; but, bless you, he is as thick-skinned as an icthyosaurus.

T. D. (Chislehurst).—We are prepared, if necessary, to hold up both hands and one foot for the issue of workmen's railway tickets at Chislehurst Station.

J. F. (Lincoln).—So keen is our sympathy with "the poor property-owner" that we dreamt about him the other night, and fell out of bed.

A. C. G. (Chalfont St. Giles).—Your Limerick has caught on wonderfully in the office, our entire staff having incorporated it in their evening prayers.

"SOMERSET" (Taunton).—We note that you "could not by any means live with your wife." Hope it led to no unpleasantness.

PTE. T. J. (Ypres).—"Be it understood that I am a total abstainer." Very well. You can drink our health in a little lime-water.

"MAUDE"—So "a lady is required to give her services to a native church in Natal, pay £1 weekly for board, take charge of cows, pigs, fowls, etc., cultivate land and teach in school." This soft billet is offered in the *Church Times* of April 1st. Well dated.

S. T. (Manchester).—We have issued many warnings about the Universal Stores and their methods of coupon trading. No reader has any excuse for being caught.

"MOTHER."—"Who is the next of kin to a son killed in France, the mother or father?" The father. But surely the subject is too sacred for a dispute.

"ONE WHO SUFFERS" (Cardiff).—Your husband, a bricklayer, rejoined the Army because he could not get work at his trade. He would be a useful man to release now that bricklayers are so much wanted.

C. S. M. (Christchurch).—"The Rev. Vale Owen needs the 'Barber's Chair' badly." But isn't it he who is making so many people's hair curl?

H. H. (Dudley).—Certainly, there is one law for the profiteer, and another for the other kind of thief.

H. E. M. (Glasgow).—You may deem it to the credit of the Dark Ages that there were no workhouses in those times. But those Ages were none the less Dark—they had no JOHN BULL!

"KEEN BUYER" (Preston).—"This is supposed to be a Christian country." Well, we have just got a new Archbishop anyway.

F. S. (Rugby).—Sorry cannot answer explosive conundrums. Ask the curate.

H. C. B. (Gloucester).—Your poem to hand, reminding us in places of Homer's Iliad.

G. T. D. (Kettering).—From what you tell us of the Great Central Stores, of 133, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., it would have been better to drop your money down the sink and save postage.

J. F. E. (Norton Fitzwarren).—"We have had enough of Yankee-doodleism." That's true, if it snows tomorrow.

J. R. (Colwyn Bay).—"Excuse the liberty of writing to you." That we would gladly have done, but you took about three sheets too many.

G. A. C. (Bethnal Green).—Your letter on the housing question quite easily deciphered, except where MS. had apparently come into contact with the fish and chips.

W. E. P. (Lancashire).—"Replying to your article a few weeks ago——" Thanks, but we didn't ask you to and you need expect no payment.

"SYMPATHETIC" (Luddendenfoot).—Honesty really is the best policy, although the local Treasurer of the Penny Bank gave a disabled soldier only 2s. 6d. for finding the Bank purse containing £16. But perhaps *he* had never been a soldier.

"PASSENGER" (s.s. *Orsova*).—Your complaints in regard to "disgusting conditions" and poor food for 3rd class passengers on this vessel during voyage from Freemantle to England are noted.

M. N. (York).—He might find appropriate paper to write his love letters on, anyway. Better suggest that for the next one he uses foolscap.

H. (Camden Town).—Our "Greatest of These" Fund boxes are in shops, etc., but, of course, not in all.

"PATRICK" (Salford).—"And I dipped into the future far as human eye could see, Saw the vision of the world and sent it on to Bottomley—Argosies of magic footballs dropping down with thundrous roar; Dear Horatio, forgive me—I'm full up so can't say more." As long as you're not arrested we don't mind.

"SNOOG" (W. Kensington).—The "Golden Apple" business is, of course, a huge advertising scheme.

A. E. M. (Wigan).—The Civil Service, more especially the Post Office, have been some of the worst offenders as regards the retention of temporary female labour in face of the demand for employment by out-of-work ex-Service men.

"ARABIC" (Ireland).—"Is the Egyptian Police Force recruiting Englishmen? Also office to apply." No wonder you think of removing to a less dangerous land. What about trying the Egyptian Hall?

MR. E. GOLDMAN (Devonport) apropos of the recent criticism of his business in this journal, tells us that he has never, since the Armistice, advertised "record prices" for demobilised officers' kits, the demand for them naturally being now very slight. In justice to Mr. Goldman we publish this explanation, although we still think his advertisements capable of misconstruction.

E. B. (Cologne).—Yes, we would like to send you a J. B. Pen if you would care to carry out the simple little rules with respect to coupons, money order, etc. Buckshee pens are off, just now.

C. M. (Adisham).—"If I had small children I would see the authorities to Hell before I would send the youngsters to school by German time." But if you saw the authorities there, by what time would you get back?

P. H. F. (Montreal).—First verse and last of M. de Denonville's "Les Miserables," addressed to the U.S.: "Ye shirked from the first your burden; Millions from blood ye made; Ye ran with hunter and quarry, While the role of neutral paid. Ye wish to do the reaping From seed ye have not strewn—Beware the eternal warrant: Ye'll reap as ye have sown."

"FOUR WAR HONOURS" (nr. Bishop's Stortford).—No name and no address. Therefore no good.

F. C. (Hungerford).—Gas supplied by the Hungerford Gas Co. through their slot meters works out at 8s. 9d. per thousand cubic feet, which is appreciably higher than the scandalous price charged by the Bexhill Gas Co.

"READER" (Loddon).—"What do you think of our big pots?" Never mind about the pots, big or little. Tell us why you prefer to draw the 29s. out-of-work dole rather than earn 30s. by working.

A. F. H. (Islington).—"Am I right in suggesting that Lady Astor . . . . has been responsible for school girls taking up with peg tops this year?" Do you mean the toys or the trousers?

LCE.-CORPL. H. E. G. (Norwich).—Of the two, we would rather go to prison for having no lights than go to hospital through having no liver.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

GENT'S SUITS FOR READERS OF "JOHN BULL" TO COST ONLY ONE PENNY PER DAY!

A REMARKABLE CLOTH DISCOVERY AND UP-TO-DATE METHODS OF PRODUCTION RESULT IN REDUCTION OF GENT'S & BOYS' CLOTHING TO PRACTICALLY PRE-WAR LEVEL!

20,000 FREE SAMPLE PARCELS TO BE SENT TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

Suits for men and boys at practically pre-war cost is the astounding announcement of one of the best-known clothing manufacturers in England. For merely one penny per day, or sevenpence per week, this firm has made it possible for readers to dress as well as they would wish!

Furthermore, knowing full well the discomfort of waiting in queues—queues that must inevitably follow this remarkable announcement—and to show their absolute confidence in their goods, they are distributing absolutely free of all charge 20,000 sample packages to readers of this paper, no matter where they live or what they do, if they merely send a postcard—not even a penny stamp need be sent.

This young man made the remarkable cloth discovery that will benefit readers. He personally guarantees the cloth.

This remarkable offer is the outcome of years of experimentation—years devoted entirely to the realisation of an ideal by the proprietor of the Holeproof Clothing Co., of 56, Theobald's Road, London, W.C.1.

His ideal at last realised was:—

1. To manufacture a remarkable holeproof cloth admitted to be the strongest in the world.
2. To convert the cloth into suits of clothes and other men's and boys' garments at the lowest prices in the world.
3. To produce them by paying fair and square wages to workers, and eliminating the long wearisome hours hitherto in vogue in the majority of English clothing factories!

REMARKABLE CLOTH.

This untearable holeproof cloth is manufactured by a secret process, and so confident are the proprietors of its amazing wearing qualities, they actually give a written legally binding guarantee, plainly stating that should the smallest hole be worn in a garment during six months of solid hard grinding wear and tear—no matter how hard the goods are worn; not just Sundays but seven days a week—another garment is given free and without question!

The material does not resemble the old-fashioned hard-wearing cords, but in appearance is the same as the very finest tweeds and worsteds sold at many times the price, and suitable not only for country and workshop wear, but for city and best wear.

HIGH WAGES DO NOT NECESSARILY MEAN HIGH PRICES.

The cry that high wages mean high prices is absolutely without foundation in the Holeproof business. What you read below is not the outcome of a mere dabble in the clothing trade, it is the result of years of experience and thought devoted entirely to the manufacture of cloth and clothing, and resulting yearly in vast improvements and in the placing on the market, just at this critical period of dear-at-any-price shoddywear-out-in-a-week clothing, a suit guaranteed to withstand the hardest of hard grinding wear and tear for at least six months at a price absolutely the lowest in the world.

GARMENTS CUT BY ELECTRICITY.

The Holeproof Clothing Company's workshops are equipped with every possible invention to eliminate unnecessary fatigue to their tailors and to make perfect garments in a fraction of the time taken in the many old and obsolete workshops in existence throughout the country. Every garment is cut by electric cutting machines—remarkable little machines, merely a few inches square—which, under the guidance of expert cutters, cut out a suit in about half the time a cutter with ordinary scissors would cut merely a sleeve. The cut is clean and ensures a perfect fitting garment. This is the first stage in the use of many marvellous inventions used to assist the worker to earn and produce more with a minimum effort.

ELECTRIC SEWING MACHINES.

Most readers are familiar with the old-fashioned treadle sewing machine, and many can imagine the fatigue of treadle, treadle, treadle, from morning to night. Readers may have read of the low wages, barely sufficient to provide life's necessaries. This is not the Holeproof way. Every machine is driven by electric power, so that the expert machinist merely guides the garment through the machines without any undue strain, resulting in double and treble the quantity, and correspondingly higher wages.

BUTTONS SEWN ON BY ELECTRICITY IN TWO SECONDS.

Just imagine, readers, the work necessary to sew all the buttons on a suit of clothes. The wonderful machines used by the Holeproof Clothing Co. take exactly two seconds to sew on a button, or about twenty-six seconds—not half a minute—to complete the suit! Furthermore, every button is strongly sewn by these remarkable machines. The worker merely places the garment in position and the machine does the rest.

ELECTRICALLY MADE BUTTONHOLES.

One second is all the time required to make perfect buttonholes! A remarkable electric machine cuts and makes each buttonhole in just the time one could comfortably count "one."

PRESSING MACHINES.

From early morning till late at night, pressers were engaged in pressing clothing. The irons used weighed fourteen to sixteen pounds. It was the hardest work in connection with clothing making. Each suit, to be satisfactorily pressed, occupied approximately one and a half hours. In exactly the same time, eighteen Holeproof Suits are pressed, and pressed as few hand pressers could press them. There is practically no hard labour.

HOLEPROOF WORKHANDS WORK FIVE DAYS A WEEK.

The above facts should impress readers. They should show them that the extremely low prices of Holeproof Suits do not mean sweated labour or ill-made shoddy garments.

Five days per week (47½ hours) are the Holeproof tailors' hours; yet the Holeproof Suit is the finest value in the world!

AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES.

The colourings of these remarkable cloths are perfect and guaranteed fast dye, whilst the prices are as low as the cloths are remarkably strong.

Many thoroughly satisfied customers have written after two years of hard wear that the suit supplied is still wearable; yet a gent's suit costs only 59s. 9d., and as shown by customers' letters only one penny per day; well cut smart gent's trousers are merely 12s. 11d., breeches, laced or button, 22s. 11d., whilst boys' knickers are supplied as low as 6s. 11d., suits 18s. 5d.

Think of the above prices, readers. Bear in mind that the cloth is holeproof, and so confident are the manufacturers of its remarkable wearing qualities, they actually guarantee to replace the garment if a hole is worn in six months, no matter what your work—no matter how hard you wear it every week-day and Sundays, too!

NO OFFER EQUAL TO HOLEPROOF OFFER.

The writer is confident there is no offer to equal this Holeproof offer. It is the result of years of careful study—not merely a passing fancy or dabble in the clothing trade! This value, even with the remarkable organisation outlined above, would not be possible but for the fact that the manufacturers do business only direct with the public and not through shopkeepers, who must make further profits.

FREE SAMPLES AND HOW TO MEASURE YOURSELF.

Any firm having absolute confidence in the quality of the goods they offer to the public should show that confidence by sending samples of goods free of all charge; if they are not prepared to do this it shows a want of faith in the value offered.

Every reader, no matter where he lives or what he does, should send a postcard addressed to the Holeproof Clothing Co. (Postal Dept. J.B.), 56-58, Theobald's Road, London, W.C.1, merely asking for a free parcel of patterns. The free patterns, together with simple instructions, showing every reader how he can measure himself, or his boys, at home, as well as any tailor could measure them, also a style book, giving all the styles one would wish, will be sent absolutely free and postage paid.

Twenty-thousand of these parcels are ready for immediate despatch. Send a postcard to-day, or call and obtain samples of this remarkable holeproof cloth direct from the manufacturers at prices far below those which shopkeepers are charging for common shoddy wear-out-in-a-week garments. You should not wait a day for the samples if you mention JOHN BULL.

WARNING.

Already imitations are being offered of the above-mentioned remarkable cloth, and those calling should be careful to look for the largest clothing premises in Theobald's Road (right facing Bedford Row), and not enter small shops in error. The Holeproof premises are only two minutes' walk from Chancery Lane tube station, one minute from Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, one minute from Bloomsbury car terminus.

The NATIONAL NEWS—a clean Sunday newspaper.

'BULLETS' £250

'BULLETS' 2ND PRIZE £20

'BULLETS' 3RD PRIZE £10

1ST PRIZE £25

1ST PRIZE

10 PRIZES OF £5	10 PRIZES OF £2 : 10	25 PRIZES OF 10s.	200 PRIZES OF 5s.	1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.	3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES

Next week "Bullets" First Prize will be increased to £1,000.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. This example will guide you: Example:—FAIR FIGHT. Bullet:—FOR SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated May 15th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 373.

IRISH STEW	THE BIG NOISE	MODERN MAID	WHEN FAVOURITE LOSES
A LIVING WAGE	GRASPING	CAUGHT IN THE ACT	FINAL RESULT
SECOND HUSBAND	THANKLESS TASK	FAMILY MAN	PLEASES THE CROWD
IN GOOD TIME	GREAT EXPECTATIONS	TRYING	HALF ASLEEP
DOING HIS BIT	FEELING HAPPY	MOST TIRESOME WHEN	A GOOD BUST
ALL THERE	HOWLING SUCCESS	FULL OF SUSPICION	GIVEN AWAY
FACING THE FACTS	MAKING A FORTUNE	WORRIES MOTHER	COME TO STAY
CAUGHT TRIPPING	WINNING BY HEAD	I DON'T BELIEVE	ALL OUT

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 29th.

Example____

Bullet

Example____

Bullet

(373) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

Signed____

Address____

☞ IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 29th.

Example____

Bullet

Example____

Bullet

(373) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed____

Address____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No. 373 "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 29th.

Example____

Bullet

Example____

Bullet

(373) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Signed____

Address____

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 29th.

Example____

Bullet

Example____

Bullet

(373) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2/- must be sent.

Signed____

Address____

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 374.

A BAD MISS—ASKING TOO MUCH—MISTAKEN KINDNESS—MAKES WIFE MAD—CURIOUS MAID—HARD LUCK—WINNING FIRST PRIZE—EVERYBODY'S FAVOURITE—WHEN BOTTOMLEY SPEAKS—ONLY A RUMOUR—WHERE FLIES GO—BIT OF FLUFF—LOUNGE SUITS—DOING A LOT—GOOD BUSINESS—MOST UNLIKELY—LOSING HIS HEAD—FOR SERVICES RENDERED—NATIONAL DEBT—PEACE DOVE.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, May 13th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **374** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. **374**, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition **373.**

List of 10s. Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition No. 370 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

Result of 370th 'Bullets' Competition.

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mr. JOHN MORRIS,
Central Auction Hall,
Langley Moor, Durham.

Example:—WHEN WOMAN CHOOSES.
Bullet:—"EVERYTHING ON" TO WIN.

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. GEORGE MACFARLANE,
110, Byres Road, Glasgow.

Example:—MAKES TOMMY WILD.
Bullet:—"LEAVINGS" AFTER "HELPING EVERYBODY."

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. SAMUEL ROBINSON,
Tanhouse, Liversedge, Yorks.

Example:—STANDING STILL.
Bullet:—RELIGION COMPARED WITH SCIENCE.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MISS ADA HOWELL, 54, Park Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham:
GERMANY'S NEXT MOVE—"IN LEAGUE" AGAINST US.

MR. G. H. SNOW, 275, Wanstead Park Road, Ilford:
HAPPY DAYS—PREMIER SEES "BEFORE US."

MR. J. ACKLAND, 33, Beckwith Road, Herne Hill:
WHEN WOMAN CHOOSES—HALFPENNY OFF ENSURES SALE.

MR. A. J. ARNOLD, 3, Churchill Stone, Greenhithe:
THINKING IT OVER—AFTER "GETTING ONE IN."

MR. W. C. MILSOM, 18, Station Road, Ashley Down, Bristol:
MAKES TOMMY WILD—"RUSHED" ABROAD "RUSHED" HOME.

MR. W. STANWAY, 9, Eaton Bk., Bugiawton, Congleton:
STANDING STILL—"LETTING GO" EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

MR. F. FLITTON, 4, Harbord Road, Cromer:
WEARING WORRIED LOOK—AND MEDAL TO MARY'S REWARD.

MR. O. ARKLE, Paddock Hall, West Chappington, Northumberland:
GERMAN MUSIC—ACCOMPANYING KAISER BACK SOON.

MR. S. C. RUDDUCK, 12, Western Street, E.15.:
AFTER THE FIGHT—PATRIOTISM WAS MISSING APPARENTLY.

MISS F. B. WALLACE, 26-29, Poppin's Court, Fleet St.:
WASTERS:—GIVE THEM "ASSISTED PASSAGES."

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. HARRY HAYWARD, 17, Meir Rd., Normacot, Longton:
AFTER THE FIGHT—COALITIONISTS "PUTTING UP" ANOTHER.

MISS A. ROWE, 36, Gerard St, Ashton-in-Makerfield:
ON THE WRONG ROAD—MANY "COVERING THEIR TRACKS."

MRS. BISBROWNE, 12, Beeston St., Castle Northwich:
WEARING WORRIED LOOK—AND ARMOUR—IRISHMAN SOON.

MR. L. CHAPMAN, 78, New Street, Woodbridge:
AFTER THE FIGHT—HUNS STILL "WEAR MASKS."

MR. F. HOYLE, 21, Charter St., Accrington:
MAN OF MARK—"ROSE" EARLY "RETIRED" LATE.

MISS A. SINCLAIR, 57, Hercus Loan, Musselburgh:
ON THE QUIET—PREMIER ASKS HIMSELF QUESTION.

MR. A. E. WYLES, 29, Vere Road, Brighton:
ON THE WRONG ROAD—ALWAYS "WALKING INTO" SOMEBODY.

MR. GEO. D. GRAVER, 27, Burleigh Pk. Rd., Plymouth:
GOOD BOY—EVIDENTLY "PAID" TO BEHAVE.

MR. W. LEEKIE, James Street, Stenhousemuir, Larbert:
FEELING SICK—USUAL "COMPLAINT" AFTER PROHIBITION.

MR. J. W. PRICE, 54, Park Road, Sparkhill, Birm'h'm:
SWAPPING—PEACE FOR POLITICS—AMERICA.

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed £2 per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
TO BE RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To .....Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed .....

Address .....

April 24, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept. 86, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

..... and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

April 24, 1920.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

HAVE YOU TRIED "PASSING SHOTS"?—FIRST PRIZE £250 THIS WEEK.

This new and exceedingly simple contest is a companion competition to "Bullets," and 2,548 Prizes value over £500 MUST BE WON. FULL PARTICULARS AND COUPONS IN "PICTURES AND PICTUREGOER," AND "PASSING SHOW," BOTH OF WHICH ARE ON SALE EVERYWHERE. PRICE 2d.

The Household Magician

Here's a little tube which dispels your ironmould worries and saves you pounds. Apply a touch of Movol (all Stores are selling it in 1/- and 6d. tubes) to the stain and in a few minutes the stain has gone. No mess, no trouble.

MOVOL STAIN REMOVER

Removes Ironmould, Rust, Fruit and Ink Stains from White Linen, Clothing, Marble, &c.

The directions given with each tube must be carefully followed.

From Chemists, Grocers, Stores, etc., in 1/- and 6d. tubes. If unable to obtain, send 1/2 for large trial tube, to

W. EDGE & SONS, Ltd., Bolton.

RAINCOATS 33/6

Price and quality remain the same.

There is a general increase in raincoat prices, but "Fashion-Craft" Raincoats are still **33/6**, and will remain so.

To-day a similar quality raincoat will cost you more than double the price in a shop, because of middlemen's profits. You get the advantage therefore by dealing direct with us the manufacturers.

"Fashion-Craft" Raincoats are made from fine quality cloth, specially proofed, full check lined, for Ladies, Gents, Maids and Boys.

Our reputation is world wide and built upon the satisfaction we give. "Fashion-Craft" Raincoats are smart, durable and ABSOLUTELY RAINPROOF.

MONEY REFUNDED IF NOT SATISFIED.

All orders dealt with in rotation and sent carriage paid.

Write now for free patterns and latest Style Book No. 59.

FASHION-CRAFT MILLS, Ltd.

Registered Offices:

32, Victoria St., Manchester.

The Bennett College

ESTABLISHED 1900 SHEFFIELD

WE TEACH BY POST

We specialise in all Exams. connected with the subjects:—

Aviation	Clerk of Works' Duties
Shipbuilding	Structures in Concrete and Steel
Electricity	
Mining	Draughtsmanship
Engineering	Civil Engineering
Mathematics	Boiler Inspecting
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	Motor Engineering
Surveying & Levelling	Wireless Telegraphy
Architectural Drawing	Internal Combustion Engines
Building Construction	

We are prepared to produce on demand 6,000 unsolicited testimonials from successful students or pay £100 to any charity you appoint. If we have helped 6,000 to prosperity surely we can help YOU. If you are interested in any of these subjects write, naming the subject, and we will send you our

FREE BOOKLET.

Please state your age. Advice free.

Parents should seek our advice for their Sons.

THE BENNETT COLLEGE (Dept. 31), SHEFFIELD.

SMALL ADS: WORTH WATCHING

15/- per line. *(Minimum 3 lines.)*

BEST and CHEAPEST Wholesale Warehouse for Beginners, Remnants, Drapery, Readymades, Travellers' Samples. Send for Catalogue free.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

FREE.—Read "The Art of Self-Expression" (post free). Wonderfully Inspiring. Reveals how to make the most of your talents and ambition in life. Increases powers of Thought, Conversation, Public Speaking, Writing; develops Self-Confidence that commands success. Call or write. Secretary, A.W. School of Self-Expression, 57, Berners Street, London, W.1

"AQUACOAT."—The Last Word in Raincoats. All Styles, ladies and gents, 42/- carr. paid, worth 4 guineas. Smart Tailor Made, fully proofed Gaberdine cloth, lined throughout with smart Check lining. Write or call for illustrated Booklet with patterns, etc. Aquacoat, Ltd., Dept. 14, 170, Market St., Manchester.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission, highest paid.—Apply Freeman, Contractors, H.M. Govt., Lavender Hill, London.

BOOTS.—4s. saved. Buy direct from our Northampton Factory. Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for catalogue.—John Emmet Ltd. Dept. 7, Northampton

THE PILL THAT WON THE WAR.—Lockwood's Invaluable Remedy for constipation. PRICE ONE SHILLING AND THREEPENCE PER BOX. POST FREE Lester Lockwood, Ltd., 94, Cannon St., London, E.C.4

CYCLISTS. Just write "CATALOGUE PLEASE" on a P.C., add your name and address, and post it. Right away the greatest of all Mail Order Catalogues will be sent you. Apart from it containing an unusually interesting story it is crammed full of Bargains. 50 Models "CAPTAIN" bicycles, showing a saving of £3 per machine. Tyres, Accessories of all descriptions at an average of 25 p.c. below usual prices. Household Goods, Raincoats, Drapery, Jewellery, etc., Never such a list published before and it's free. Address your card H. Fitzpatrick, Dept. 82, Burnley.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.—Skilled Tradesmen required, also Clerks and Cooks. Pay 3s. to 5s. 6d. on joining, rising to 12s. per day. Age 18 to 38, and for ex-Service men 18 to 38. For conditions of Service, Separation Allowance, etc., call or write to Inspector of Recruiting, Royal Air Force, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

NOVELS BY THE BEST AUTHORS. As good as new at half prices. Send for list to W. H. Smith & Son's Circulating Library, 186, Strand, or at their book stalls or bookshops.

HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland, genuine hand made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer, 11s. 6d. a yard; selected patterns post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 34), 56, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland.

YOUR BOOTS COST LESS if bought where manufactured. Ladies' Glace Kid Shoes 16/-. Gents' Boots 22/6. Catalogue free.—Lee's Footwear Co. (Desk 8), Dalkeith Place, Kettering, Northampton.

DO YOU WANT FRIENDS? There's many wanting to know you. Send 7½d. for "The Link" (Not Matrimonial). LINK, 3, Wine Office Court, E.C.

LEARN Dutton's 24-hour Shorthand. 3/- per month secure speed of 150 words per minute. Specimen lesson 2d.—Dutton's College, Dept. J. 2, Skegness.

CANARIES, Singing, Breeding. List free. Genuine Talking Parrots. All approval. Catching Appliances List "B." Birdlime 1/3, 3/3. RUDD, Bird Specialist. Norwich

A CHANCE YOU SHOULD NOT MISS. Black Cashmere Finish Stockings. Perfect fit and finish. Fast Dye. 2/6 a pair, or 3 pairs for 6/11. Wadsworth, Northgate, Halifax.

LEATHER DIRECT FROM TANNERY.—Guaranteed free from Glucose. Sufficient for 2 pairs Men's Soles or 3 pairs Ladies. Stout 5/-, Medium 4/6, Light 3/-. Post free. Dept. J., Tannery, Ross, Herefordshire.

CAMERAS WANTED.—HIGH PRICES PAID.—CITY SALE AND EXCHANGE, 106B, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

KODAKS and other secondhand cameras at bargain prices. Send for list of 1,000 bargains, post free. Easy payments and exchanges arranged. City Sale and Exchange 106B, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

ALARM CLOCKS guaranteed all brass Lever movement. Polished aluminium case. Guaranteed Swiss Made and excellent time-keepers. Price 12/6. Carriage Paid to any address. A. I. Eastwood & Co., 28, Chapel Street, Liverpool.

Hinde's

HAIR TINT FOR GREY OR FADED HAIR.

Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable, has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, 2/6 the Flask or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

Patentees and Manufacturers of the World-Famous Hindes Wavers.

Can't beat "TIZ" when Feet Hurt

"Ah! Nothing like TIZ for sore, tired, puffed-up, perspiring feet, corns or chilblains.

"I can stand all day in complete comfort after using TIZ."

Use TIZ, and never suffer with tender, blistered, swollen, tired feet. TIZ, and only TIZ, takes the pain and soreness out of corns, hard skin, chilblains, bunions.

As soon as you put your feet in a TIZ bath you just feel the happiness soaking in. TIZ instantly draws out all the poisonous exudations which cause sore, inflamed, aching feet.

"Before using TIZ," writes Mr. F. Salmon, of Westwood Cottage, March, Cambs., "I was a great sufferer with my feet. One box of TIZ made me feel like a new man."

Get a 1/3 box of TIZ at any chemist's or stores. Get instant foot relief.

Refuse all substitutes. Look for "TIZ" on the box and W. L. DODGE, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Square, E.C.1.

REMARKABLE NEW TROUSERS PRESS

PRESSER, CREASER & HANGER COMBINED that gives SPLENDID VALET-SERVICE FOR ONE PENNY PER YEAR.

SMART, SHAPELY LINES IN PLACE OF SLOVENLY FOLDS AND BAGGING.

How every man can appear as smart and well-groomed as if he had a clever valet to care for his clothes, is made possible to-day by a wonderful new idea in Trouser Pressers. It costs only 6/6 and it lasts—a lifetime—say 78 years for 78 pence. *An efficient servant, always ready for duty, that costs you one penny per year!* Sold over 300,000 since last July and every one delighted.

That is why men of all classes find Leahey's wonderful new trousers press such a splendid boon. It is extraordinarily cheap. **Only 6/6** (6d. extra for packing and carriage) instead of 2 or 3 gns. It is not only a presser, it is a creaser and a hanger as well. The cheapest, handiest and most satisfactory press in the world! Leahey's is so remarkably easy to use. Simply put the trousers in overnight and next morning there they are beautifully creased and pressed. No trouble at all

LEAHEY'S 6/6 WONDER

The whole operation doesn't take a minute, and you always look smart, because your trousers always look like new.

Leahey's can be taken anywhere. It only weighs 24 ozs., folds to 16 by 14 ins., for suit-case, wardrobe or cupboard. Light and portable. Will hang on a hook or over a chair. Being made of highly compressed fibre-board it is practically indestructible.

Leahey's presser not only smoothes and stretches out every pucker, but *concentrates extra pressure* on the making of a knife-edge crease down the front of the trousers.

Send for this remarkable press to-day. One for 6/6 (plus 6d. carriage and packing). Two for 12/6. Three for 19/6, carriage paid to your door. If you are not more than satisfied your money will be immediately refunded in full. There is a good demand for these presses. They are selling like hot cakes. *Order yours to-day.*

LEAHEY'S TROUSERS PRESS Co., Dept. 150), 32, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, E.C.4

And at 8, Radcliffe Bldgs., Moorfields, Liverpool Also from "My Valet," 5, St. Peter Sq., Manchester.

ALL THE BEST BICYCLES

At pounds below shop prices. Write now for Clearance Lists. **Swifts, Triumphs, Rovers, Raglans, Centaurs, Court Royals, Premiers, &c.** Cash or Instalments. Grand Bargains from £3 19 6 *(makers' prices £15 15s.)*. Lists Free;

GEORGE KING, LTD., Great Cycle Dealers, COVENTRY

USING UP VITALITY.

A DEGENERATOR OF THE RACE.

The struggle for existence uses up vitality at a greater rate than any other thing. In the long effort to make both ends meet we shorten life surely, though imperceptibly.

Especially in middle age, at forty or thereabouts, do we become impressed with the necessity of having something in hand against bad times, and with that feeling in time comes worry, nervous breakdown, neurasthenia. The entire system feels the result of the nervous strain, and then shows signals of distress.

The digestion resents things that it accepted before, the heart palpitates on slight exertion, the muscles of the back ache after a day's work. Your blood is thinner and not so bright and red: you lose strength.

When these things occur, whether you are fourteen or forty you need a tonic. Dr. Williams' pink pills suit the needs of most people because they really build up impoverished blood and strengthen exhausted nerves. Useful for growing children and for men and women whose nervous energy has been overtaxed, they have been accurately described as "a regenerator of the race."

FREE.—You can obtain a useful Health Guide free, by sending a postcard request for a copy to Book Dept., 36, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. Write now.

SPRING CLEANING

Insist on being supplied with

S.A.P.

By special Appointment.

The World's Premier POLISHES for all polished surfaces.

Kynoch Bicycles

The week-end ride is most enjoyable when you possess the right kind of machine. Let us help you to decide.

For Illustrated Catalogue "B" write—

KYNOCH LIMITED

LION WORKS, WITTON, BIRMINGHAM

GRAVES OF SHEFFIELD

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Paletots, Raincoats, Mackintoshes etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Wool Scarfs, Drapery, Ladies' and Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Tea and Dinner Services, Bedsteads, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Cycles, Tyres, Carpets and Lino, Poultry & Appliances, etc. Grand values. EASY TERMS

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

SAVE MONEY ON FOOTWEAR!

by Fixing

KRUDS

Save Shoe Leather. Sold Everywhere. **2d.** per carton.

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE. *We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in* JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

Extreme Nervous Anæmia

Weak, Bloodless and Dyspeptic—but Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mrs. Foster, of 20, Trafford Street, Scunthorpe, Lincs, says:—"I'm sure Dr. Cassell's Tablets saved my life. For years I had been anæmic, but about two years ago I became so seriously ill that I really thought I was going to die. There was no strength in me at all, and how I dragged about I don't know. The anæmia had become so bad that I would go absolutely white, and I looked just like a dead thing. After these attacks I simply collapsed. At all times I was weak, and my digestion so feeble that everything I ate caused pain. This pain was mostly round my side and between my shoulders. I was a bundle of nerves too, afraid to go to bed because I could not sleep, or if I did was sure to have nightmare. I dreaded being left alone, and used to tell my husband not to go out or he would find me dead on his return.

"I had good medical advice and was always taking medicine, but I only seemed to get worse till I tried Dr. Cassell's Tablets. From that time my health improved, and steadily I grew stronger. Now I feel twenty years younger, and so strong and well that I can do all my work without fatigue."

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

HOME PRICES
1/3 & 3/-
The 3/- size being the more economical. Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world. Ask for Dr. Cassell's Tablets & Refuse Substitutes.

The Universal Home Remedy for—

Nervous Breakdown	Anæmia
Nerve Paralysis	Kidney Trouble
Spinal Weakness	Indigestion
Neuritis	Back Pains
Nervous Debility	Malnutrition
Sleeplessness	Wasting Diseases

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

FREE INFORMATION
relative to the suitability of Dr. Cassell's Tablets in your case, sent on request.
DR. CASSELL'S CO., LTD., CHESTER RD., MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA Friendly Society.
Established 1843.
ST. ANDREW STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Claims Paid..... £14,750,000
Invested Funds..... £7,500,000
Invested in Ministry of Health Housing Schemes... £600,000

Life and Endowment Assurances at Popular Rates.

Liverpool Victoria Approved Society.
Our numerous Branch Offices and Agents all transact National Health Insurance.
ARTHUR HENRI, Secretary.

1914 Value in 1920

TRENCH COATS

in stylish Fawn, with Belt, made from finest quality Government fabric and lined with pure Rubber. Guaranteed thoroughly waterproof. Easily worth 4 guineas.
Price 35s.
(State length when ordering).
A Bristol Customer writes: "Thanks very much for Trench Coat. It's topping."

BRITISH WARMS.
Splendid selection British Warm Overcoats, suitable for dyeing Navy or Brown. Will give years of hard wear. **Price 42s.**
(State length).

HUNDREDS OF OTHER BARGAINS IN SURPLUS GOVERNMENT STOCK.

New Heavy Army Boots (black or brown)	20/-
Australian Bedford Cord Riding Breeches	15/6
Grey Whipcord Trousers (new)	16/6
Cardigan Jackets (new)	15/-
Ditto (cleaned and repaired)	6/-
Oilskin Jackets	6/6
Oilskin Trousers	5/6
Sou'westers	2/-
New Pure Wool Singlets	2/6
Motor Cyclists' Overall Suits (new), strong waterproof drill, with pockets, wind straps and hood	25/-
Overall Trousers, blue or khaki	7/-

Send for Bargain List.
TERMS: Cash with Order (Money back guarantee). Orders executed in strict rotation. Goods sent carriage paid.
CURRIE'S STORES. (Dept. A), 29, Downing Street, MANCHESTER.

HEALO

CURES ALL SKIN TROUBLES

Ask your Chemist for a Free Sample.

Or write
Maurice Smith and Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Kidderminster.

Large Boxes, 1s. 3d. and 3s.

FOUR OPERATIONS FAIL
to cure Mrs. Beamhall, 80, Cheetham Road, Swinton, who writes:
"It is five years since I started taking your medicine. I took it for 12 months and was completely cured. Before I took VITADATIO I went under four operations for a tumour in my left side, and they all proved of no use. When I came out of Hospital the last time they told me it was a Cyst Tumour, and that I would never be cured. I took VITADATIO and am now quite well."

"VITADATIO" CURES
Internal Complaints,
LIVER, KIDNEY & STOMACH TROUBLES
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